



NASHUA NUMISMATIST

JANUARY 1999
Volume 3 Number 1
Whole Number 24

PREZ SEZ...

Congratulations to the entire club. January just saw one of the largest turnouts we have ever had at a meeting. We had a nice assortment of material that was passed around, from Gary's goodies at the FUN show, Pierre's excellent collection of toned coins, an interesting assortment of tokens, and Roger's auction lots which drew some very spirited bidding. It was 10 past 9 and we had to kick people out (but please come back) so that Tim could lock up and go home.

This particular meeting was extremely busy and entertaining, which is exactly what we are striving for. So congratulations, keep up the good work. Bring in interesting, unusual items to discuss. Submit articles, especially " My Favorite Coin" for the newsletter. And be aware that our new project, our coin column for the Nashua Telegraph, is ready to roll. We need your help, share YOUR hobby, inform the public, and make some money. What a deal.

That's all for now. See you in February.

Alan

JANUARY HILITES

-- 17 members and four guests present.

-- Nominations for club officers: President Brouillard glad to take another term but it's his last. Motion made and carried to reelect the incumbents, Secretary cast one vote. Nominating committee will appointed in October to find a new slate. Board list on back page.

-- Proposal for a column in the Nashua Telegraph written and sponsored by the club. General consensus was to do it. It's a commitment and everybody must contribute. A Topic List will be published in the newsletter.

-- Gary Galbo reported the FUN show. Delaware Quarter passed around which was free at the Mint booth. Slabbed currency is reality; sample shown. It was difficult to buy but easy to sell. 10x loupes on special sale to club members.

-- Show and Tell: Nashua Centennial Medal and Encased cent; a new book on Benson's Animal Farm; a toned dollar and other coins. Appeal of toned coins explained -- they are unique.

-- November and December quizzes were answered. Half dollars don't circulate because there is no cup in the till for them. There was talk on \$2

bills and other "unusual" money.

-- The December 1998 newsletter logo won the vote and will be permanent.

-- Charlie Dube and Don Pickering called the auction which saw spirited bidding.

-- President Brouillard commented that this was one of the best meetings in recent history and they have all been excellent over the past few months.

-- The next meeting is 8 February.

JANUARY QUIZ

1. What kind of horse is Caesar Rodney riding?
2. What does the initial "L" stand for on some 1864 Indian Head Cents?
3. What kind of US paper money is MPC?

4. How many Obols are in an ancient Greek Drachm?

DECEMBER ANSWERS

1. Isle of Man, thanks to the Pobjoy Mint.
2. South Africa. Extra-an antelope.
3. Hamilton (\$10) and Franklin (\$100).
4. Mexico City.

COIN OF THE MONTH

... was Tokens. A variety of tokens were entered into the pool, including tokens for NH Highway, telephone, Dream Machine Game, Burger King Breakfast Beverage, Fun World, NH Lottery Doubloons, and a Lord's Prayer Elongate. Each was described by its contributor. A token is a monetary instrument of stated value. Tokens can only be redeemed from one source and they cannot be used as a replacement for legal tender. This was a fun topic enjoyed by all. Next month: **WOODS**.

WELCOME ...

... to new member Randy Bullis, who has been with us for a few months now. He collects just about everything US and Canada. He has already contributed to our lively discussions. We are glad

SHOW CALENDAR

7 Feb - Brunswick, ME

21 Feb - THIRD SUNDAY
HOLIDAY INN

26-28 Feb - Bay State Boston

7 MAR - WILLAMANTIC, CT

21 Mar - THIRD SUNDAY
HOLIDAY INN

SEND ME AN EMAIL...

... to rfritsch@concentric.net so I may place your address in the NCC collective list. The list will be distributed electronically only to those who are on it. Thanks.

How I Got Started In Coin Collecting

Randy Bullis

After interviewing my father about his recollections of my earliest coin collecting interests, I discovered that my fascination began early in life. He said that he had started coin collecting when he found an old English penny in a junk yard as a child. Throughout his life he was an avid pocket change collector and a vest pocket dealer at local coin shows. He ran the town's cinema which allowed him numbers of coins to search through to amass a great collection. When his 3 children came along, he got a different job and put his money towards raising his family. He was still into coins long enough to try to entice my two sisters and me. My sisters lost interest within a few months, but I began playing with the coins and books more and more.

My earliest memories of coin collecting began when I was 12. The bicentennial coins had just been released and everybody wanted some. We had recently moved and I noticed Dad still had some big bags of cents that I didn't remember so I asked to go through them all. After these, I asked my father to help me get bags of cents from the bank to go through and I began my Lincoln cent series. Soon after than I began on the Jefferson nickels. Since the Jeffersons were cheaper and on my after school job budget, I decided to pursue them in uncirculated.

My strongest inspiration was Walt Disney's Uncle Scrooge comics. Scrooge McDuck had billions of coins in his vault and he took swims in them and loved them. He even had the very first dime he ever made. I then made my first mail order purchase without anyone's assistance. I purchased a 1967 Canadian howling wolf half dollar in proof like from Coin World advertiser Brian Jenner. I still have this coin today.

In 1978 I was 14 and I started buying proof sets in lots of 10 from the mint. Back then one could only purchase 5 sets maximum per person, so I used my father's order card and mine. I made a profit so the next year, I purchased 15 now using my mother's name also. No Type II surfaced. In 1980 I was 16 and now in the tenth grade and I was purchasing silver coins from the kids at school so they could have beer money. I was becoming an investor more than a collector as well as, it seemed, that the rest of the world was doing. I also purchased an uncirculated set of Eisenhower dollars in a Dansco album for \$485.

My father had lost his drive in collecting since raising a family cost money and he noticed that the coin market was more investor driven than collector. Soon, I lost everything. The proof set market dried up, the silver price bombed, and I was stuck with a lot of junk.

The return to coin collecting. Ah, what to do, what to do?

I found an ad in the back of Coin World for a dealer that would pay more per dollar for silver coins than anyone. One just needed to trade the junk silver in towards the purchase of his coins. I began with Franklin halves, then Seated Liberties, and some type coins. I still have all of the Seated and type coins today. By 1982 I was ready to graduate and I had started on a pretty nice coin collection valued at around \$1200. The slabbing companies came along and my father jeered them and me as I began chasing slabbed coins.

Everything stopped. I graduated high school; went to college; found other hobbies; graduated college; searched for jobs; made money; spent money. I met my wife and started settling down in 1987. In 1991 I moved to Dunbarton, NH and felt comfortable with my life and job and I decided to finally purchase the Jefferson War Nickel set in uncirculated, thus finishing my Jefferson nickel collection. Shortly after in 1992, I joined the internet crowd and found buying coins easier. Since then, I have finished the Roosevelt dimes (unc), Washington quarters (7/8 unc), Lincoln cents (3/4 unc), Kennedy halves (unc), Mercury dimes, Peace dollars (3/4 unc), Barber halves, Barber dimes, Mint sets from 1959-present, and proof sets from 1951-present. I have also started Buffalo nickels, Standing Liberty quarters, Canadian series, cameo proofs 1950-1970, and a PCGS MS65 Eisenhower set (I guess I never learn).

NASHUA TELEGRAPH ARTICLES

An editorial in NumNews a few weeks ago sparked an idea, which is always a dangerous thing. The editorial said that the hobby transients are good potential members if we want to go get them. It's true. We have a lot of things happening in the hobby right now that will be in front of the public soon, or have already happened. It's up to us to educate them.

I'm thinking about a biweekly column about coins in the Telegraph. We would explain what is happening or about to happen. Later, we can start branching out about other subjects — coinage series, other aspects of the hobby, questions and answers, etc.

We would do this as a club for several reasons. It removes the burden of a regular column from one person. It becomes a group effort, with the purpose of strengthening the club. It preserves anonymity of the

CAN'T FIND A DELAWARE QUARTER IN CIRCULATION?

TIRED OF BANK CLERKS GIVING YOU THAT FUNNY STARE?

BROTHER, DO WE HAVE THE SOLUTION FOR YOU!

☞ MAKE YOUR OWN! ☞

IT'S EASY AND IT'S FUN!

1. You need scissors, cardboard, and glue.
2. Carefully cut out the design at the left as one piece.
3. Fold the graphic along the center line. NEATNESS COUNTS!
4. Apply glue to the back of the graphic. Now, paste it to the cardboard. Use the fold for alignment.
5. Cut around the edge of the reverse, and you now have your very own Delaware Quarter!
6. Amaze your friends and acquaintances, but don't try to spend it.



contributors (the column is written by the Nashua Coin Club). There are other benefits too.

I have been in contact with the Telegraph's Features Editor, Tracy Kittredge, and she wants to see several columns before a decision is made. That is standard in the newspaper world. We would want at least six backlogged columns anyhow. This column not only would educate the public but also serve as a great advertisement for the club. And they would pay us! Standard rate is \$30 per column, about 500 words. I propose that the money is paid to the club (tax-free) and the actual author splits the fee with the club. Money in both our pockets! A growing list of articles and assignments is below. Sign up today!

Bob Fritsch

<u>ARTICLE</u>	<u>ASSIGNED TO</u>	<u>DONE</u>
Kickoff	Bob F	Y
50 States Quarters		
Program	Bob F	Y
Delaware		
Pennsylvania		
New Jersey		
Georgia		
Connecticut		
NH Committee	Bob F	
Dollar Coin (Sacagawea)	Carl G	
\$20 Federal Reserve Note		
Pocket Change	Gary G	
Cent		
5 Cent		
Dime		
Quarter		
Half	Gary G	
Suzie B		
Euro		
Readers' Questions (as needed)		
Attending a coin show		
Ancients	Carl G	
New Commems (continuing)		
Dolley Madison		
Medals		
Tokens		
Elongates		
Woods		
NH Numismatics	Alan B	
Collecting Nashua		

Guidelines:

- Start out each article with DID YOU KNOW Grab the reader's attention and make them want to read the rest of the article.
- End each one with LOOK FOR THEM IN YOUR POCKET, if relevant to the article.
- Try to convey your enthusiasm for the hobby in your articles.
- Keep the article simple and use terms the average reader can understand. Have your spouse critique the article for you.
- Don't get too numismatically technical. The target audience is not very interested in grading nuances between MS-64 and MS-65 even though we are.



.....a Point of
View.....



from.....
Small Cents II

It's time to party like 1999! For those of us in Numismatics, 1999 should be one big party with another to follow in 2000!

If the F.U.N show in Florida is any precursor of things to come, we're in for a fabulous year in coins.

As I've said many times before, the only way to start out the year is with a trip to the F.U.N show in Florida. The best way is to make a vacation of it with plenty of time for Disney, Universal Studios, and Busch Gardens in Tampa Bay. Oh, and lets not forget Rosie O'Grady's complex in downtown Orlando. What a place this is!

You could spend the week alone with all the doings on International Drive alone. Great food, activities, shopping and sights to see for every taste.

But.....lets get back to the subject at hand. The coin show itself is fabulous every year and this year even more so. The mint was on hand to introduce the ne Delaware quarter and start off the 50 States Quarter program with a bang! The auction was huge, 5 sessions or was it 6, highlighted by gold coins from the Trompeter collection.

As I said at the meeting, I was happy with what I bought but would have been happier if I bought more. Nevertheless, I came

back with some real prizes and should do quite well.

In addition to the neat 1916-D PCGS VF20, I showed everyone at the meeting, I've since sold a 1916-D in AU55 to the same customer to complete his Mercury Dime Collection. All Mint State except for the 1916-D VF & AU55, 1921 XF, and 1921-D XF, all of which he purchased through me over the last 18 months. Hope he goes on from here! Also, I'm still working on the purchase of a 1939 P,D, & S set of Oregon Commems in PCGS MS67 for one of our esteemed Club members, lets keep our fingers crossed for him as this is a rare opportunity.

Hope you all get a chance to participate in my January Auction, there are a lot of nice items offered and it promises to be a good one as long as the weather cooperates.

Thanks for the vote of confidence by the club in re-electing me as 1st VP for 1999, I hope I can help keep our club going in the direction it's been heading.

I'm making plans for Long Beach again in February. Anyone looking for something special should give me a want list before I go!

Before signing off for this month, I would be remiss if I didn't re-emphasize what a great experience the F.U.N show is for any collector or coin enthusiast. You'll never appreciate what it can be like until you go to a major show like this or the ANA or Long Beach or Greater Baltimore. Bay State and all our New England shows pale in comparison. From club meetings like EACC to the fabulous auctions they can't be beat for the wonders on display and a true appreciation of our hobby through the opportunity to see touch and feel many of the great rarities, we ordinarily just get to read about. I highly recommend it to everyone!

Regards, Gary

1999 OFFICERS

President - Alan Brouillard
VP1 - Gary Galbo
VP2 - Carl Greenbaum
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Fritsch
Director - Don Pickering
Librarian - Roger Levesque
Editor - Bob Fritsch

This Newsletter is published monthly by the Nashua (NH) Coin Club. Entire contents are copyright © 1998 by the Nashua Coin Club. Questions, comments, and articles may be sent to PO Box 3003; Nashua, NH 03061-3003 or to rfritsch@concentric.net on email. Deadline is the last Friday of the month.

Phone queries may be made to 881-9211. The Club meets on the second Monday of every month in the Chandler Memorial Library, 257 Main Street, Nashua.

NEXT MEETING 8 FEBRUARY AT THE LIBRARY

N.C.C.
P.O. BOX 3003
NASHUA, NH 03061-3003

Robert F. Fritsch 99
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Nashua, NH 03062

HISTORY IN YOUR POCKET

OUR SECOND ANNIVERSARY

FROM THE EDITOR

It is hard to believe that this newsletter is two years old. In that time we have had major changes in numismatics. The 50 States Quarter Program is in full swing with the second entry, Pennsylvania, released to circulation by the time you read this. We have a new \$20 bill that many think is a step backwards in money art and rendition. And we are due for a new dollar sometime next year, with a probable striking of 1999 Anthony dollars to fill the needs of commerce. Exciting stuff indeed!

Our club has undergone major changes also. Our meetings are filled with interesting programs and good camaraderie. Our membership is growing with five new members in the last year alone. Your editor would like to believe that this was due to the *Nashua Numismatist* alone, but knows that it is only part of the story. Club leaders and members are working hard to keep interest up, and to show others the joy of this wonderful hobby of ours. That attracts new members who in turn contribute to the success of the club. This newsletter is the window to the world for the club; its members can tell their stories

and brag about their collections. The newsletter is only as good as its contributors. If the first two years are any indication, the *Nashua Numismatist* will be around for many years to come. Bob

TRIP TO WILLAMANTIC

... will happen on 7 March. We will leave Nashua at 7AM so we can arrive at the show around 9, and have a decent visit before we have to come back. Maximum carload is 6 people. All I ask is a tank of gas and the tolls (if any). Meet at the Sheraton [Tara] in Nashua at 7AM. If you want to come, please call me at 885-7865 and leave a message. I will wait for you if I know you're coming. Otherwise you take your chances.

Bob

SEND ME AN EMAIL...

... to rfritsch@concentric.net so I may place your address in the NCC collective list. The list will be distributed electronically only to those who are on it. Thanks.

PREZ SEZ...

Another excellent meeting in February. We are pleased to see all the new faces in attendance. A warm welcome to all of you. Now that you have a feel for what atypical (if there is such a thing) meeting is like, please feel free to bring in material or stories to share with the other members. It is your input that makes a meeting and a club interesting and entertaining.

Please keep submitting material of any kind for submission to the newsletter. It can be brief or lengthy, there are no restrictions. It can be informative, personal, humorous, or whatever. It is your story, share it with others.... We are still in need of articles for the *Nashua Telegraph* coin column, 500 words in length, and both you and the club make money, while informing the public of our hobby. The ultimate win-win scenario.

Time to start thinking about the club dinner in June. Where do we want to go, and what do we want to eat. Think about it - we will have preliminary discussion at the March meeting. Until next time.....

Alan

FEB HIGHLIGHTS

- 13 members and eight guests present.
- Three new members!
- Arthur Fitts nomination to the ANA Board of Governors approved.
- Discussion on the Telegraph articles. Assignments made.
- Delaware Quarter in circulation; several finds reported. Everybody likes the design and there was speculation on what the quarter reverse will look like in 2009.
- Stories about MPC (Military Payment Certificates) were told by people who had actually used the stuff.
- Gary Galbo's next auction will be 27 March.
- Willamantic (CT) show 7 March; members invited to help fill the car and share costs.
- New membership cards were handed out.
- Show and Tell included a rocket ship made from a Coin-struction kit, a Coin World 50 States Album [not worth the price], a coin bank that burps, and Ken Cable told of a coin find and asked for attribution -- a Philip V Spanish copper from 1711.

FEBRUARY QUIZ

1. How many cars are pictured on the back of a \$10 bill?
BONUS: what make are they?
2. What U.S. coin is sometimes called a trime?
3. What does a Vecturist collect?
4. What was the name of the bison who modeled the 1901 \$10 United States Note?

JANUARY ANSWERS

1. A quarter-horse, of course. 2. [James B.] Longacre. 3. Military Payment Certificates. 4. Six. A Tetradrachm (4 Drachms) was 24 Obols, almost a full month's wage at one Obol per day.

-- Charlie Dube conducted the auction, ably assisted by Alan Brouillard. There was spirited bidding on some of the lots.

-- Coin Photography handouts from JT Stanton, a nationally recognized expert, were made available.

A VISIT TO A LOCAL COIN SHOW

Had occasion to spend about thirty minutes at the last Third Sunday show at the Holiday Inn. These shows are not just about coins, they are also about relationships. Talked with show chairman, Jimmy G, gave him his Honorary 1999 NCC membership card and warmly invited him to our June dinner. He said "he would try to attend." Talked to Gary G. about his basketball team and various other topics. Talked to John S. about old stories of collectors and shows in the area. And last, as I was walking out talked to Tim in the parking lot about his latest purchase, an Oregon commem. As you can tell, in just thirty minutes, I spent about 5 minutes looking at coins and 25 minutes talking to friends. Now that is a GOOD COIN SHOW!

Alan

COIN OF THE MONTH

was Woods. Several woods of New Hampshire were in the pool. "Flats" from the Lawrence, MA Centennial were shown. A short history of woods was presented: the first woods were made in Tenino, WA, in response to a money shortage during the depression. While these pieces were declared illegal, wooden money gained popularity. The John Rogers Company of Fostoria, Ohio was the leading producer of wooden money in the 40s and 50s, mostly in veneer wood commonly known as "Flats." There are many different types of woods -- Official (town celebrations, etc.), store cards, drink tokens, "good fors", clubs, and individuals, among others. They are typically made of ash and other hardwoods. The Secretary was reminded to order Club Woods advertising our meetings. There are several Wooden Money clubs in the US and Canada. The two national clubs are the International Order of Wooden Money Collectors (IOWMC) and the Dedicated Wooden Money Collectors (DWMC). Bob Fritsch is a member of both and will gladly propose anyone interested for membership in either club. Ken Young won the pool. **Next month: anything with New Hampshire on it** (numismatic related of course.)

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE NASHUA COIN CLUB

by John Statkum, Charter Member #7

The Nashua Coin Club was founded in 1960 by Ralph Honneywell and Charlie Loukidas. First and foremost was placed in the Nashua Telegraph that stated if anyone interested in coins or coin collecting should meet at the YMCA on Temple Street on a given date.

The meeting was held downstairs and to the best of my recollection, Ralph and Charlie took charge. Others in attendance were John Boutelle, a local stamp dealer, and his friend Jim Stiff, who was quite a numismatist in his own right having owned and operated a coin store in Boston. Several other people were there including myself. A decision was made to have another meeting for the purpose of electing officers.

The Rev. Fred Hughes was elected President at this next meeting. He was a local minister of the Nazarene Church, which was located on South Main Street where the Salvation Army church is today. Jimmy Stiff was elected Secretary-Treasurer, a position he held until his death many years later. A set of bylaws were written and it was agreed that the membership dues would be two dollars per year. Anyone joining within this one year period would be a Charter Member.

During the early Sixties, the hobby experienced a coin boom that yet has to be repeated. We soon outgrew the small room downstairs and moved to a larger room upstairs. This room was necessary because of the growing membership. People came to the meetings from Lowell, Manchester, and other surrounding towns to participate in the activities offered by the Club. One of the highlights of a meeting would be the auction, where it was not unusual to have between fifty to seventy lots offered. The auctioneer was John Boutelle. Highlights included BU rolls of coins because they were not only sought after by collectors but also by speculators and this would only drive the price even higher.

Due to the coin market boom, the NCC outgrew itself and other coin clubs were formed in Lowell and Manchester. Fitchburg, Mass., formed a large club also.

As time went on the speculators were driven out due to falling prices, not only in speculator coins but on all other coins. So did the memberships in the NCC and all the other clubs. The fall in prices was so drastic that some clubs went out as well.

At this time, the NCC was meeting at the K of C Hall (Salmon Brook Club). As the auctions dwindled other activities were added such as refreshments, slides, films, and speakers. At one of the meetings, Q. David Bowers was our speaker.

Eventually we would up at the Chandler Library where we are now. Although we are not as large as we once were in the Sixties, the NCC has changed its focus to educate young people and the joy of collecting.

COIN OF THE MONTH

was Woods. Several woods of New Hampshire were in the pool. "Flats" from the Lawrence, MA Centennial were shown. A short history of woods was presented: the first woods were made in Tenino, WA, in response to a money shortage during the depression. While these pieces were declared illegal, wooden money gained popularity. The John Rogers Company of Fostoria, Ohio was the leading producer of wooden money in the 40s and 50s, mostly in veneer wood commonly known as "Flats." There are many different types of woods -- Official (town celebrations, etc.), store cards, drink tokens, "good fors", clubs, and individuals, among others. They are typically made of ash and other hardwoods. The Secretary was reminded to order Club Woods advertising our meetings. There are several Wooden Money clubs in the US and Canada. The two national clubs are the International Order of Wooden Money Collectors (IOWMC) and the Dedicated Wooden Money Collectors (DWMC). Bob Fritsch is a member of both and will gladly propose anyone interested for membership in either club. Ken Young won the pool. **Next month: anything with New**

Hampshire on it (numismatic related of course.)

MY LEAST FAVORITE COIN BY BART

There is a movement afoot in the stock exchange which is called the "contrarian" view. That is, you buy what everyone else isn't buying. Apparently these folks are doing okay.

While our esteemed editor is looking for club members to write about their favorite coin, my adherence to the contrarian philosophy says that I should write about my least favorite coin. My least favorite coin is lacking in terms of artistic merit, quality of design and poor strikes from the mint. It is a totally uninspiring coin! It also wears poorly. The relief is low and the coin seems to be a prime candidate for unflattering toning. Thus when a gem example comes forth it is with great fan fare and people owh and ah and it commands a goodly price. Now there are numerous apologists for this coin. As to the scarcity of choice or decent specimens, they cite the low mintage and long usage as factors. I feel that the coins were well circulated because no one felt they were worth saving!

What is this least favorite coin, it is the Barber Half-Dollar! Before you jump down my throat and ask why I picked on just the half-dollar and not the Barber quarter and dime, it's easy, the quarter and dime have more eye appeal to me. The reason may that the smaller coinage is less apt to bring about the deficiencies that are more apparent in the larger coin.

So there you go, that's my contrarian viewpoint. I apologize to all you Barber series devotees—but not much! Of course contrary views will probably be accepted by our editor, but you won't change my mind! Curmudgeonly yours....Bart

HOW I GOT STARTED IN COIN COLLECTING

ANDREW P. HORTON

Spring Street Junior High had "mini-courses" back in the flashy 70's. These were in school hobby clubs. Holding honors for having the CoinClub mini-course was one noble and sublime C. Dube, aka #13 NCC.

We were a bunch of hyper, naive, hormone induced young teens. The lure of treasure, or rather oft fingered buffalo nickels and war worn Nazi marks, turned our young and impressionable minds into day dreaming adventurers as we wondered and pondered upon the mysteries of coins, coinage, and the world beyond the confines of middle school.

The Dube auctions were legendary. Neither Parliament nor the Wall Street could match the excitement, intrigue, and majesty of an auction. We did not care that we possessed no golden eagle nor 909 VDB. But we boys could be men, flexing weak economic muscle with desk pounding stress. We shared the excitements, the impassioned pleas for just "one more bid", and fought with tempered fury to change the OPINION of one self-assured master of coin dealings. To this day, Coin Club comes up in conversation among former alums who have traded trips to Littleton and thumbing through the other bible, Coin Values 1978, for screaming kids, stuffy bosses, and overextended credit. Coins, civilization's rounded, calling cards came to mean more than a means to a game of Pacman, but rather a porthole to worlds, times, and dreams of long ago.

COIN COLLECTORS ANONYMOUS (CCA)

[Thanks to Roxanne Goldberg and her internet site for this tidbit]

Rules for belonging to CCA:

1. To belong to CCA, you must be a fanatic coin collector. It must mean more to you, than anything else in life.
2. You must spend your last dollar, buying coins.
3. If you have a choice of ways to spend 5 and spend the remaining \$95 on coins.
4. You must be in long term layaway on your coins.
5. You look at Yahoo at the 1000s of listings for Coins, every day.
6. You must be willing to convince other compulsive collectors like yourself, that this is ok behavior.
7. You must belong to a whole list of coin organizations.
8. You must read at least 12 coin magazines per month.

[More in the future]



.....a Point of
View.....

from.....
Small Cents II



As I write this month's piece for the newsletter, I am preparing for a trip to the Bay State show in the morning. (Saturday 2/27) Hope I see some of you there.

Just back last week from Long Beach where once again I managed to spend my limit without any problem. Bought some very nice early copper, Indian cents and Lincolns; also V-nickels, Buffalo Nickels, Standing Liberty Quarters. Walking Liberty Halves, Morgan and Peace Dollars: Oh yes an a few nice certified Commemorative half dollars. Two of these have already found a new home with one of our members as has a nice Buffalo Nickel also certified.

The coin market continues to go full speed ahead and prices continue their steady increases in most areas. Particularly hot are Lincoln and Indian Cents; Buffalo nickels; Washington Quarters, Silver Dollars and the latest series to heat up is Commemorative Halves. Many Commems are trading wholesale above Grey sheet especially in grades MS64 and above.

Every week the grey sheets seem to be dotted with tons of pluses and every monthly summary even more so! I don't see any end in sight and heartily recommend you allocate as much money as you comfortably can to additions to your

collection over the near future as I believe today's prices may be short-lived and he who procrastinates will be faced with significantly higher prices in the very near future. So fill those holes now before prices go any higher!

The beginning of March also marks the issue of the next "State" quarter issue from Pennsylvania. How many of you have found Delaware quarters in your change? I came home the other night and was surprised to find a couple in my pocket change. Don't know where I got them but someplace in Nashua for sure.

The next Small Cents II Coin Auction is coming up March 27th. If you have anything to consign do so before March 5th!

I've also made plans to attend the Greater Baltimore show March 19th & 20th, followed by the Central States Show in Milwaukee and I'm planning on the ANA in Chicago this summer as well.

I've added a line of nicely made wooden display cases in Cedar, Oak, or Walnut for any of you interested in making up a nice display of collectibles for home, office or where have you. As with all coin supplies a 15% discount is available to all club members. These are all nicely made in 6 different sizes with secure locking systems and safety glass at very reasonable prices. Stop by and check them out.

Also, I still have a stock of jewelers 10x diamond loupes on hand for those of you who have yet to pick one up.

I hope everyone's as pleased as I by the great turnout at the club meetings and all the new faces. Remember, anything I can do to help any club member with his collecting needs, let me know. I'll do my best.

Till we meet again.

Gary

1999 OFFICERS

President - Alan Brouillard
VP1 - Gary Galbo
VP2 - Carl Greenbaum
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Fritsch
Director - Don Pickering
Librarian - Roger Levesque
Editor - Bob Fritsch

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MARCH
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11 Gene Drive
Nashua, NH 03062

A WORLD OF KNOWLEDGE

MARCH HILITES

- 16 members and four guests present.
- A good web site on the Mandalay Bay Casino Treasure Exhibit was described.
- Annual dinner is in June, maybe Newick's.
- An explanation of the club's benefits was given to new members. The quiz was reviewed.
- Andrew Horton gave a short talk on his experience in Costa Rica, see article in this issue.
- Gary Galbo's coin auction is 27 March at the Holiday Inn.
- Ken Cable gave a talk about coin collecting as a youngster in Boston.
- Show and Tell included two different 50 States Quarters albums and printouts from the Bank of Lithuania web site showing all their money.
- Web sites of interest will be added to the newsletter; everyone submit your favorites.
- The auction was conducted by Charlie Dube and assisted by Don Pickering.
- The next meeting is 12 April.

SHOW CALENDAR

- 9-10 Apr - CICF Chicago
- 11 Apr - Orono, ME
- 13 Apr - Auburn
- 18 Apr - THIRD SUNDAY
HOLIDAY INN
- 25 Apr - Chelmsford
- 25 Apr - Lincoln, ME
- 16 May - THIRD SUNDAY
HOLIDAY INN
- 30 May - New Bedford

PREZ SEZ...

Just a few random thoughts and observations on our friends in the federal government. It seems the general public likes to ridicule our friends in Washington - such as the IRS, the United States Postal Service, Congress, etc. Many times this criticism is justified. But, let's discuss our coins and currency for a minute.

In the last few years, the BEP has introduced new style \$20, \$50, and \$100 bills. Basically, everything has gone smoothly, errors have been at a minimum, distribution has been done in a timely manner. A job well done by all.

Our friends at the US Mint have produced our normal coinage, the usual yearly commems, mint sets, proof sets, and rolled out the 50 states quarter program with almost no problems at all - at least that the general public is aware of. To sum up, in an age where it seems the feds cannot do too many things right, our money supply, coins and currency, has been working very smoothly. Is this really a government operation. Just thought it would be nice to give some compliments to a well run program. If all the other federal departments ran as efficiently, the country would be in great shape. Until next time.
Alan

A TALE OF TWO BANKS

By Bob Fritsch

When the Delaware quarter was released I went down to my bank (which shall remain nameless)

and asked if they had any. The reply was negative, so I asked the branch manager if some could be special ordered. The call was made to the person in charge of getting change, and the reply was rather surprising: "When we run out of quarters we will order more. We will distribute them to the branches that need them, and if the ones you want are in the delivery you will get some." Now this is supposedly a Full Service bank and they hold a lot of my paper. I guess the only service they don't provide is customer service. I have not yet gotten a 50 States Quarter from that bank. Having heard a rumor that Citizens Bank on Main Street had some Delawares, I dropped in one day and asked them. Not only did they have them, I got several rolls for future use. As it was after March 8, I asked if they had any Pennsylvanias also. "Oh, they're not out yet," the teller said. I corrected that error of knowledge and was astounded that one of the ladies behind the counter picked up the phone and ordered them right on the spot!

The following week, I returned to that bank and got several rolls of Pennsylvanias. The tellers couldn't have been nicer, and in return I gave them several printouts about the quarters from the Mint web site. I have since opened a savings account there, which will be used to fund future issues. If you want to deal with a nice group of folks, try Citizens Bank on Main Street. Plus it's a great place to get your quarters.

**RARE 1869 INDIAN CENT
FOUND IN MAINE ANTIQUE
DEALERS JUNK BOX!
BY FERDY MAGUIRE**

Sooner or later you gotta hit it. And "Bart" Bartanowicz hit it big purchasing a "junk lot of coins and buttons for \$5.00 up in northern Maine. Sorting through the lot he came across a 1869 Indian Cent wrapped in wax paper, which was in mint state condition! The 1869 Indian Cent is one of the great rarities and finding one in mint state condition is unheard of! Bart quickly brought the coin to Gary Galbo local proprietor of Small Cents II to verify his good fortune. Gary quickly ascertained that the coin was indeed genuine and someone had managed to survive in mint state condition despite being in a junk box. Gary felt that Bart had underestimated the coin's condition. Gary deems the coin to be at least MS-65 and worthy of a "full red" designation. The coin has been sent in to PCGS for grading and substantial offers have already come in for the coin. Gary feels that his friends at Bowers and Merena and others will be calling him. Q. David Bowers has already called Bart and asked for an interview so that he can put Bart's story in his next book. Bart has taken all this with calm and composure. He feels justified now when his long suffering spouse complains about the thousand pounds of Indian Cents that they are paying in storage costs to the local bank. Sound plausible, you never know? Unfortunately, Bart hasn't hit the big time yet but he is always looking. Happy April fools day!

MARCH QUIZ

1. Which country was displaying bananas on its entire coinage?
2. Where is it said that "commerce was restored after the expulsion of the pirates"?
3. What is the origin of the name "Caracalla"?
4. How many pennies were minted by the U.S. Mint last year?

FEBRUARY ANSWERS

1. Four. BONUS: They were made up by the engraver.
2. Silver 3-cent piece (1851-1873).
3. Transportation tokens.
4. Pablo. Black Diamond modeled the Buffalo Nickel many years later.

HOW I GOT STARTED IN COIN COLLECTING

Joe St. Laurent

Not too many good things came out of my junior high school days. But there was one thing that did. In 1977 I joined the Spring Street Junior High School Coin Club. The man running the show from a cramped second floor history room was none other than Charlie Dube himself. In coin club I learned a great amount about world coins and collecting. As time went by Charlie Dube became someone I looked up to very much. He was a great conversationalist and an extremely intelligent individual. As time went by our relationship expanded beyond coin club and we began taking jaunts up north every summer treasure hunting. I learned a lot from Mr. Dube and we really had a great time together. Then after high school, they tore down Spring Street. Unfortunately as time went on in the stormy years of my youth, I lost contact with Mr. Dube. My \$4000.00 coin collection wound up getting stolen from a supposed friend and hunting partner. I lost interest in coin collecting for quite a few years. Recently I started collecting again. And through Gary, the owner of Small Cents II, I found out about a coin club at the Chandler library in Nashua. I also found out Mr. Dube was attending. It was great being reunited with someone I looked up to so much. I now get to watch Mr. Dube auction off coins as I did so many years ago. I treasure being in his company again and I hope the coin club is around for many years to come.

COIN OF THE MONTH

... was anything numismatic with New Hampshire on it. Included in the pool were a Mount Washington Cog RR elongate, a Live Free or Die elongate, a Bethlehem, NH Bicentennial wood, and a NH Highway token. The elongates were found in the White Mountains, and the Cog RR piece was interesting as it had two sides. The Bicentennial wood was issued for a town celebration, and there were many such issues in the 60's and 70's. The highway tokens have many die varieties and the current minting is very fuzzy. **Next month: Numismatic Roadkill (the worse the better).**

HIGHWAY TOKENS

It has recently been announced that starting on 4/1/99, New Hampshire will be issuing the all popular highway tokens in proof condition. The ever popular tourist location of the New Hampshire Mint in Odell, NH announced that they will also be minting the tokens with dates on them. There will be special issues with gold and silver as well as the present composition. Dates on the tokens will be represented as April 1999, May 1999, etc. Because of the compositions and the proof and business strikes of the tokens, the collector will need 108 to complete a one year set. With a price tag of \$13.50 for the complete set (12 1/2 cents each). The mint maintained that the price will stay the same on all issues including the gold, but only one to a collector. The amounting loss will be made up with the all new token income tax which assumes that the more you buy tokens, the more income you make and thus, you will have the highest tax to pay. To obtain your order form, you must write or call the mint no later than April 1, 1999.

SEND ME AN EMAIL...

... to rfritsch@concentric.net so I may place your address in the NCC collective list. Thanks.

NEW MEMBERS FOR MARCH

Bruce Heimbach, Nashua
David Heimbach, Nashua
Joe St Laurent, Nashua
Andrew Horton, Concord.

WELCOME TO YOU ALL.

WHAT IS UNUSUAL ABOUT THIS STORY?

[From the Air Bulletin (Internet)]
According to transportation secretary Rodney Slater, the new tax and fees will serve to finance "a record level of investment, which includes USD 8 billions (EUR 7 billions) over five years" for airport renovation and improvement. Currently, the airport construction tax is set at USD 3 and capped at USD 12 (EUR 11) per journey. Under the new budget presented by Mr. Slater, airports will be allowed to increase the tax to USD 5 and the cap will be raised to USD 20 (EUR 18).
[Answer at the meeting and in next issue]

INTERESTING WEB SITES

We start out with the ANA
<http://www.money.org/>
50 States Quarter Program in the US Mint Site
<http://www.usmint.gov/50states/index.cfm>
Canada's New Coin Program
<http://centsation.com/en/menu-en.html>
CPI Calculator goes back to 1913
<http://woodrow.mpls.frb.fed.us/economy/cal/cpihome.html>
Here are a couple of currency convertors
<http://www.oanda.com/>
<http://www.xe.net/currency/table.htm>
Historical data on gold and silver values (always behind)
<http://www.kitco.com/history-data.html>
How about a fun site?
<http://shazam.econ.ubc.ca/flip/>
Numismatists Online -- big auction site
<http://www.numismatists.com/ikdz2aKb/>
And finally, we have an article on the Mandalay Bay coin exhibit
http://www.lvrj.com/lvrj_home/1999/Feb-26-Fri-1999/weekly/10642597.html

COSTA RICA

Andrew Horton gave a short talk on his experience in Costa Rica, where he was stationed with the Peace Corps for two years. Costa Rica gained independence in error as the result of a power vacuum. It is a strict democracy and the President has only one term, as established in the Revolution of 1948. Several coins and notes were passed around. The Colon was named for Christopher Columbus; there are 272 Colones per dollar. The Coat of Arms consists of 7 stars for the seven provinces, mountains which divide the country, and the Atlantic and Pacific oceans with a ship on each. BCCR found on the coins stands for the Banco Central de Costa Rica. A round of general questions was then answered.

ALL ABOUT MONEY A REVIEW

Bob Fritsch

First broadcast on Arts and Entertainment (A&E) Network on 20 March 1999.

This two-hour show purported to tell all about money, a subject every numismatist adores.

Following a brief introduction, the show was divided into eight segments of about 15 minutes each. A different aspect of money was examined in each segment. Various people were interviewed to help tell this story, including the National Numismatic Collection's Richard Doty and U.S. Treasurer Mary Ellen Withrow.

The first part examined two stock markets: the NY Stock Exchange and a Moroccan stock exchange where sheep and other livestock were traded. The differences and similarities of each operation were examined through interviews of a player in each market. Part two was of great interest to this numismatist. It examined gold, currencies, and physical money and took us inside the Royal Mint in Wales for interviews with a few employees there. Part three examined the inflation in Germany during the 1920s and its long-reaching effects on the German psyche. Part four used a former con artist to show how easy it was to falsify monetary instruments like checks. The segment went on to explain how US currency was changing to meet the counterfeiting challenge and showed a few shots of Crane & Co, where banknote paper was manufactured.

The second hour started with a profile of gambling in part five, then examined a monastery in Kansas where money has no meaning in part six. Part seven detailed the revival of the Japanese economy after World War II and how they were trying to survive the current slump. Part eight concluded the show with digital money and its place in the future. While each segment was interesting within itself, it lacked focus when taken as a whole. I kept asking myself, "Why did they make this show? What's their point?" I did learn some things but feel that I wasted about half the show on irrelevant information. If you have nothing better to do when it is rerun (which I am sure it will be), give it a try. Otherwise you can borrow my tape and watch the interesting parts in much less time.

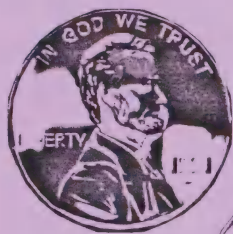
ALL ABOUT MONEY

Randy Bullis

Personally, I found that the first hour was very interesting and the second hour seemed to drag. It begins (and reverts back to now and then), by showing the contrasts of Wall Street Stock Market and the Morocco "Livestock" Market. Other discussions include how great Great Britain once was and the power of the gold Sovereign coin. This links the discussion to the gold standard, government backed money, and finally the Royal Mint of England. Excellent photos of how newly minted coins are handled. Can anyone spot the MS68 anywhere? In this segment, we also get to see how coins start at the artist and move to the reduction machine and finally to the dies.

Next in the video, Germany and the hard times of hyper inflation are covered; interesting facts of how the Deutsche Mark came about. Who helped them create that awesome currency that powers such a strong economy today? Proceeded by Counterfeiting techniques and con men. Watch and learn how a con man can rip off a bank teller by simply cashing a check and making change. Very interesting. Soon after this, we are showed how paper money is created. Do you know which company that resides very close to us makes ALL the paper for the United State's paper money? Also, do you know how much counterfeit money is discovered by the Secret Service each week? You will be amazed.

The next segment talks of gambling of money and the detriments of addiction to money and gambling. Shown are Foxwoods Casino of Connecticut. Did you realize how big they are compared to the rest of the casinos in the world? This brings us to electronic money and how we could live without cash. They explore the positives and negatives, the ease of use and the problems of hackers and computer viruses. Makes you wonder - do we really need cash and coins? Will we lose our privacy that cash allows us? Will we coin collectors have nothing new to collect? And finally, a discussion of how an economy like Japan's can come full swing from old time ethics before WWII to the present. The question to ponder before watching the video is: who is richer and work less, Americans or the Japanese? How did they develop what the did?



.....a Point of
View.....

from.....

Small Cents II

Greetings

all! Another Small Cents II auction is now history and now we're preparing for the next one May 23rd. Could use some consignments so give me a call if you have anything to offer!

The Delaware quarter is come and gone and now the Pennsylvania quarter is out. We have both in stock with Philadelphia and Denver mints for each. Man I never expected such a response. I'm getting calls daily asking about the 50 States Quarter program, think this will have an even bigger impact on coin collecting than I thought before. Also have the new Dansco Albums in stock for the quarters with the cheaper folders still to come.

The new 1999 Silver eagles have been difficult to get. Prices were extremely high at first as production was limited, but they've dropped a bit. Now available at \$10.95 singles and probably \$10.25 each by the roll, but still much higher than last year.

Went to the greater Baltimore Show the weekend before last and participated in the B&M auction. I picked up some nice Buffalo nickels and a pretty spectacular 1938 Oregon set that might even be too much for our resident Commemorative Junkie, MS68, MS68, and MS67 NGC certified and quite amazing!

Basketball season is over for me but Baseball is starting so you all know my store hours will probably be a little erratic for the next few months, but I'm looking forward to it.

Made plans to attend Central States show in Milwaukee in April; Long Beach in June; and ANA in Chicago in August, so I look to be busy.

Business is hopping all over the country and the weekly grey sheets are filled with plus signs to reflect the activity and ever increasing demand for coins of all denominations. We find when buying that everything is costing a little more than we expect but next week's prices make last week's seem like a great bargain. These are exciting times to be in the coin business and should also be exciting times for everyone interested in coins and coin collecting.

I was happy to make the acquaintance of a lovely young lady this past month, who has been bitten by the coin collecting bug. She is a retired teacher from Spring street Junior high and Pennichuck Jr High schools, so some of you may know her. Others who attended last Saturday's auction witnessed her enjoying her first coin auction and providing some comic relief to us all with her un-bridled enthusiasm for coins. It was a treat and a pleasure and I'm hoping to entice her into joining the Nashua Coin club, though she's a little leery of being in such an overwhelming minority. Why is we don't get more female coin collectors anyway? Doesn't say much for the sex appeal and raw animal magnetism of all of us male coin collecting enthusiasts, now does it!

Well, food for thought any way.

See you all at the meeting !

Regards,

Gary

1999 OFFICERS

President - Alan Brouillard
VP1 - Gary Galbo
VP2 - Carl Greenbaum
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Fritsch
Director - Don Pickering
Librarian - Roger Levesque
Editor - Bob Fritsch

This Newsletter is published monthly by the Nashua (NH) Coin Club. Entire contents are copyright © 1999 by the Nashua Coin Club. Questions, comments, and articles may be sent to PO Box 3003; Nashua, NH 03061-3003 or to rfritsch@concentric.net on email. Deadline is the last Friday of the month.

Phone queries may be made to 881-9211. The Club meets on the second Monday of every month in the Chandler Memorial Library, 257 Main Street, Nashua.

NEXT MEETING 12 APRIL AT THE LIBRARY

N.C.C.
P.O. BOX 3003
NASHUA, NH 03061-3003

Robert F. Fritsch 99
11 Rene Drive
Nashua, NH 03062

WATCH FOR CHANGE IN YOUR CHANGE

PREZ SEZ...

Glad to see another strong turnout at our recent April meeting. Lots of show and tell, many stories, and a nice little auction.

action taken.

-- Andrew Horton showed an old Lincoln Bust Bank from the First Federal Savings Bank of Hudson / Nashua / Merrimack. some funny

APRIL QUIZ

1. The numeral 7 and the letter G refer to what Federal Reserve Bank?
2. What year was the George

THE UNITED STATES is issuing currency with new security features. These enhancements make U.S. currency easier to recognize as genuine and more secure against advancing technologies that could be used for counterfeiting.

Newly designed \$100 notes were issued in 1996, newly designed \$50s were issued in 1997, and the newly designed \$20s are being issued in 1998. Lower denominations with new designs will follow. There will be no recall or devaluation of any U.S. currency, so you will continue to see both older and newer designs. Whether old or new, all U.S. currency always will be honored at full face value.

The Need for Change

The new currency series of bank notes represents an ongoing commitment to protect the U.S. currency. In fact, U.S. currency has seen important changes throughout the years, beginning with the first series of U.S. bank notes issued in 1861. These early notes featured a distinctive cotton/linen paper, green ink, and a fine-line design. In 1928, each denomination was standardized with easily recognizable single portraits and illustrations. In 1990, U.S. currency was enhanced with two important new features—the security thread that runs vertically through the note, and microprinting around the portrait border—but the currency's appearance remained largely unchanged.

Now after nearly four generations, U.S. currency is undergoing a more noticeable change in appearance. And in the future, as new, dependable technology becomes available, the next generation of currency enhancements will be incorporated into the currency.

Look for these features to guard against counterfeits

- **Color-shifting ink** - Tilt the front of the bill back and forth to see the color on the numeral on the lower right corner change from a distinct green to black and back again.
- **Watermark** - Hold the bill up to a light source to see the watermark in the blank space to the right of the portrait. Because the watermark is *in* the paper, not printed on it, the watermark looks the same from the reverse side.
- **Security thread** - Verify the presence of a thin strip running from top to bottom to the far *left* of the portrait on newly designed \$20 bills, *right* on \$50s, *left* on the \$100s. It is a strip of plastic actually embedded in, not printed on, the paper. It is visible only when you hold the bill up to a light source. On the \$20 you can see "USA TWENTY" and a flag from both sides of the note. The thread glows under ultra-violet light - green on the \$20, yellow on the \$50, and red on the \$100. The denomination number appears in the star field of the flag on the \$20 and \$50.
- **Fine Line Printing Patterns** - Look at the very fine lines behind the portrait. Then turn the note over and examine the fine lines behind the building. Be certain that the lines on *both* sides are clear - not splotchy, or composed of dots.
- **Microprinting** - Examine the portrait and the security thread under a magnifier to see very small printed words. In the \$20, "USA 20" is repeated within the lower left-hand number and "The United States of America" is on the lower edge ornamentation of the oval framing the portrait. On the \$50, microprinting appears in the side borders and in Grant's collar. On the \$100 it appears in the lower left corner numeral and in Franklin's coat.
- **Comparison** - Check the note against currency you know to be authentic and look for differences in the features above as well as in the texture of the paper, which should have a familiar feel.

If you receive a counterfeit note

- **Keep** the bill from the passer.
- **Delay** the passer by some excuse if possible.
- **Telephone** the police or the U.S. Secret Service.
- **Observe** the passer's description and that of any companion or vehicle used.
- **Write** your initials and the date on the bill, and surrender the bill only to the police or the U.S. Secret Service.

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Director - Don Pickering

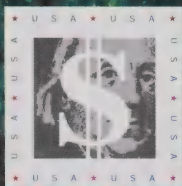
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NEW DESIGNS FOR YOUR MONEY



PREZ SEZ...

Glad to see another strong turnout at our recent April meeting. Lots of show and tell, many stories, and a nice little auction.

Expecting more of the same in May, bring in your coin of the month - anything from Mexico. This will be our last meeting before our June dinner meeting. Details to be discussed on Monday May 10, 1999. Many thanks to Carl for taking the minutes at the last meeting. My secret underground sources inform me that a NCC member is taking a trip to Norway. Hope that they bring back a numismatic interest story to share with us. I will bring coffee and donuts (I hope I don't forget) Until May 10th- see you soon...

APRIL HILITES

-- 17 members and one guest present.
-- Newick's is the location for the NCC banquet in June.
-- Kurt Frank reported on his visit to the Denver mint. Standard 45 minute tour on glassed in catwalks above the production areas -- coin presses, huge bins of 1 cent planchets, striking Pennsylvania quarters at 12,000 every half hour, old coin exhibit, and a 10 foot high column of Jefferson Nickels. Bought a Dolly Madison \$1 at the gift shop.
-- Tim Walant described tour of the Philadelphia Mint.
-- Club thinks it's a good idea to support another 5 year term for Mint Director Philip Diehl, no

action taken.

-- Andrew Horton showed an old Lincoln Bust Bank from the First Federal Savings Bank of Hudson / Nashua / Merrimack, some funny post cards from the BEP, like "Show me the Money!" and a postcard book of African Currencies.

-- Discussion of the search for state quarters. New Jersey is due out 10 May.

-- The entire membership of the Nashua Coin Club attended the Small Cents II auction on 3/27 and a good time was had by all.

-- President Brouillard talked about the huge information resource for coins and collectibles available on the Internet and reminded everyone to send their favorite URLs (i.e. Internet addresses) to the newsletter.

-- Discussion about the 3/15/99 Coin World's grossly inflated comments about potential Y2K disasters. Y2K jitters do seem to be driving the market for gold and silver sales although gold prices have been quite stable.

-- Roger Levesque showed a gold plated Merc and Walker, a 1989 nickel with a double rim and a 1999 nickel with a micro double die.

-- Joe St. Laurent told of finding a copper 1943 penny in a bag of wheat cents he bought at a previous club auction. His excitement lasted until he found a magnet to test the coin and found that it was copper plated steel.

-- Charlie and Don auctioned off 5 lots to close the evening.

APRIL QUIZ

1. The numeral 7 and the letter G refer to what Federal Reserve Bank?
2. What year was the George Washington commemorative Half Dollar issued?
3. The Maria Theresa Thaler was first struck in what year?
4. The Mexican Peso was devalued from 8 to ?? pesos per dollar in 1982

MARCH ANSWERS

1. Banana Republic. 2. Pressed coins issued at Disney's "Pirates of the Caribbean" 3. In Naples, people will hang around the tourist hotels and flag down taxis for a tip. These people became known as (you guessed it) "Caracalla." 4. None, they were all cents.

WHAT IS UNUSUAL ABOUT THIS STORY?

For the first time, EURO values were included in addition to the US\$ [USD 8 billions (EUR 7 billions), USD 12 (EUR 11)].

SHOW CALENDAR

16 May - THIRD SUNDAY
HOLIDAY INN
23 May - Auburn
23 May - Chelmsford
23 May - Searsport, ME
23 May - Burlington, VT
30 May - New Bedford
20 Jun - THIRD SUNDAY
HOLIDAY INN
27 June - Chelmsford

THE SECRET LIFE OF MONEY A REVIEW

Bob Fritsch

First broadcast on Arts and Entertainment (A&E)
Network on 27 March 1999.

This program was the companion piece to *All About Money* broadcast the previous week. Like its companion, this show was divided into eight segments, this time with a coherent theme. It examined the history of money from its first usage to present times. As in the previous show, Richard Doty of the National Numismatic Collection, and Mary Ellen Withrow, Treasurer of the United States, were interviewed along with several other people, and were seen throughout the show to tell its story. Part one examined money of the ancients, mainly Greek and Roman. It did not dwell on the coins as much as usage, how they were spent. The Roman city of luxury, Pompeii, was showcased as an ancient Club Med. Part two moved to the great trade routes of the East which was the focus of money after the fall of Western Rome. Islam embraced money as good and necessary for the proper exercise of commerce and religion. Money was the avenue of ideas flowing across the world. That flow turned west during the Renaissance, as told in part three. The Medici family was shown as the first western bankers who understood money and its usage. At the same time, Christianity saw money as dirty and stained, a legacy of Judas, and in stark contrast to the Islamic view.

Part four took us to Potosi, Bolivia, the site of the richest silver mine in the world. While explaining the history of the mines and their importance to the Spanish, it showed present-day residents going to their jobs in the mines which are nearly played out half a millennium later. Part five examined the role that the Napoleonic Wars and the Rothschilds had in shifting control of wealth from kings to merchants. Without massive loans arranged by the Rothschilds to finance Wellington's campaigns, Waterloo may never have happened. And because of these loans, the British Crown could no longer fool with the money on the monarch's whim.

Part six was a tribute to Ben Franklin and his contribution to the US monetary system, especially the development of paper money. Part seven brought us to modern times with profiles of two rich Americans, Donald Trump and JP Morgan, two tycoons who had vastly differing styles. Part eight concluded the program with new forms of money,

including electronic money (E-money), international money brokerages, and digital money, all of which depend upon the flow of information to succeed.

I was much more satisfied with this program than the previous one. I gained a lot of knowledge and insight into the role of money in the broad sweep of history. That history came alive by profiling the key people of their times. This show is highly recommended when it reruns.

WEB SITES

from Carl Greenbaum

<http://www.edgarlowen.com/index.html>
<http://www.commem.com/products.htm>
<http://www.bankisrael.gov.il/catal/p035.htm>
<http://www.imj.org.il/archaeology/coins.htm>
<http://www.numismatists.com/gfqh2ayb/>
<http://www2.wcoil.com/~lbrcl/>
<http://www.netset.com/~coins/index.html>
<http://www.patriotauctions.com/cgi-bin/currentauction.cgi>
<http://centennialauctions.com/>
<http://www.tiac.net/users/ggalbo/>
<http://web.coin-universe.com/bowers/>
<http://www.tulving.com/>
<http://www.jjteaparty.com/jjtcoin.htm>
<http://www.teletrade.com/coins/index.html>
<http://www.greysheet.com/default.htm>
<http://www.capitalplastics.com/>
<http://www.historicalcoins.com/start.htm>
<http://www.bitsofhistory.com/index.shtml#top>
<http://members.aol.com/amphoradh/title.htm>
<http://www.amnumsoc2.org/index.htm>
<http://www.servtech.com/public/clasant/>
<http://gate.cruzio.com/~cuzco/>
<http://www.why.net/home/vesci/>
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cgi-bin/browser?object=coin&field=Collection&value=Arthur+S.+Dewing+Collection>
<http://www.griffterrec.com/coins/coins.html>
<http://www.coin.com/>
<http://members.aol.com/rarearts/malter/gallery.html>
<http://www.PapyrusBooks.com/>
[I will send this file electronically to anyone who requests it to rfritsch@concentric.net. Ed.]

COIN COLLECTING VIDEOS AVAILABLE

by Randy Bullis

I have recorded the 2 hour special, **All About Money**, for the Nashua Coin Club members and have left it as well as 3 other videos at Gary's shop, Small Cents II for members to loan out and view. Please note, though, that all commercials were also recorded on the A&E channel and you can fast forward through these. [Review was in the April *NN*. ed.] Below are summaries of these videos.

Money: History In Your Hands: Narrated by James Earl Jones, not James Earl Fraser (chuckle). This video discusses coins from the time of Jesus to today. It shows some awesome photos of many coins. This is an excellent video to show your family members that would like to understand your fascination with coins and collecting.

Detecting Counterfeit and Altered U.S. Coins:

This is the video that comes along with the A.N.A.'s course on counterfeiting. It discusses everything from the class but at a faster pace. This includes how to make several different types of counterfeits and their differences. It also shows a number of counterfeit coins and what to look for to verify that other coins are real. A real must for those of us purchasing expensive coins at shows, auctions, or the internet.

Video Guide For The Full Step Jefferson

Nickel Collector: This is a fairly short video yet very informative. After reviewing, you will know most there is to know about full step collecting. I find the video to be repetitive and somewhat boring after awhile, but sometimes, this is what you need to learn material accurately. I have learned a lot from this video alone and think it's worth your time if you collect Jefferson nickels.

COIN OF THE MONTH

...was "Road Kill" and featured some pretty ugly, corroded and beat up coins. Tim Walant was the "lucky" winner. **MAY: Mexican Coins**, celebrating Cinco de Mayo.

ANA'S MONEY TALKS

Transcript No. 1677 March 9, 1999

COLONIAL MERCHANTS MAKE CHANGE WITH AN AX by Bill Jones

Today when a clerk needs to make change, he or she reaches into the cash register. But back in colonial times, he may have reached for an ax. During colonial times, and for several decades after the United States won its independence, coins were in short supply.

The most widely accepted coin by far in early America wasn't even a U.S. coin. It was the Spanish dollar, or "pieces of eight," as it was known to most people. These large silver coins were produced by the Spanish colonies in Mexico and South America, and they were the forerunners of the U.S. silver dollar. Pieces of eight were legal tender in the United States until just before the Civil War.

Unlike the U.S. dollar, which is divided into 100 cents, the Spanish dollar was divided into eight parts, called reales or "bits." Each bit had a value of 12 1/2 cents. Today, you can still find remnants of the Spanish coin's influence in our economy. The modern quarter, or "two bits," as it's sometimes called, is a descendant of the Spanish two real coin. And the New York Stock Exchange still quotes stock prices in eighths of a dollar.

Although Spain produced smaller denomination coins, they weren't always available. Sometimes merchants gave credit slips or vouchers to their customers when they couldn't make change. On other occasions, the term "breaking a dollar" was taken more literally. In those instances, a quick chop with an ax divided the coin roughly in half. A few more chops could divide the coin into quarters or even eighths. The pie-slice pieces of a dollar continued to circulate, just as the whole coins did. They were a familiar sight in early American commerce.

This has been "Money Talks." Today's program was written by Bill Jones and underwritten by Whitman Coin Products, a division of Golden Books, providing quality coin products for more than 50 years.

"Money Talks" is a copyrighted production of the American Numismatic Association, 818 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903, 719/632-2646, ana@money.org, <http://www.money.org>.

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This Newsletter is published monthly by the Nashua (NH) Coin Club. Entire contents are copyright © 1999 by the Nashua Coin Club. Questions, comments, and articles may be sent to PO Box 3003; Nashua, NH 03061-3003 or to rfritsch@concentric.net on email. Deadline is the last Friday of the month.

Phone queries may be made to 881-9211. The Club meets on the second Monday of every month in the Chandler Memorial Library, 257 Main Street, Nashua.

**NEXT MEETING 9 MAY AT
THE LIBRARY**

N.C.C

P.O. BOX 3003

NASHUA, NH 03061-3003

WATCH FOR CHANGE IN YOUR CHANGE

PREZ SEZ...

Memorial Day 1999

As we remember our military who have paid the ultimate sacrifice to ensure our freedom, wouldn't it be a good idea in the future if we honored them on future coinage, as opposed to politicians. But then again, when you think of a Grant, Eisenhower, JFK - did we honor them on coinage because they were presidents, war heroes, or both? Why haven't we honored Teddy Roosevelt, war hero/president? Not a lot of rhyme or reason as to why certain persons are honored and others are not.

Anyway - looking forward to having a large attendance and a good time at our annual dinner meeting, Monday June 14, 1999 at 7:00PM at Newick's. Bring your appetites, bring a friend, to what is usually one of the highlights of the year for the NCC. Hope everyone enjoys seafood, if not there are non seafood items on the menu. Have always had nice meals here, and would expect that to continue. Hope to see you all...

Until next time...

Alan

BANQUET AT NEWICK'S

- Annual tradition of the club
- Each member may bring one guest
- 7PM seating. Come a bit early if you can.
- Please limit cost to a \$15 total meal
- About 33 people will attend
- Directions on the back page

MAY HILITES

- 18 members and four guests present.
 - Reservation for Meeting room for the next year sent in by the Secretary.
 - The new Washington \$5 gold coin offer from the Mint was shown.
 - Final plans for banquet: Newick's in Merrimack with a 7PM seating. Moved and carried that the \$10 charge be waived for the new highly active members.
 - Suggestion for a picnic at a Nashua Pride baseball game made. See article for particulars.
 - Show & Tell: videos of Mandalay Bay Treasure exhibit, which included big bills (\$500 and up) and gold nuggets; a trip to lesund, on the mountainous coast of Norway; a spiffy \$100 bill shirt and a certificate and ribbon won at an invention convention for a drip detector; two
- Numismatists* from 1943, a quote detailed the recall of the unpopular Albany Half Dollar; an unknown coin with a security edge which turned out to be from Sri Lanka; a 1914D cent made from a 1944D; Mint and Proof Set information from the Mint -- sets are expensive this year; a piece of Civil War scrip associated with the Great Locomotive Chase; "cardboard

quarters" for the NJ quarter and the Sacagawea dollar; and a coronation or wedding medal from Prague.

- Auctions on the internet discussed -- there was a lot of garbage out there being passed off as high quality stuff.
- Ken Cable gave a talk of the Events of 1849 and the Camp Holderness Rally. It saw an outbreak of cholera and that probably killed the rally as well as many people. Ken has found Mexican coins on the site and showed an 1825 Mexican Real, a Japanese Gin bar, a German coin, a 1787 Mass Colony, and a Hard Times token. He used period music to illustrate the era.
- Charlie and Alan conducted another leg of the Ken Young Collection Auction.

MAY QUIZ

1. Numismatically speaking, what are lions, demys and unicorns?
2. What was the first cent to show "In God We Trust"?
3. What commemorative US coin shows a catamount on the reverse?
4. What famous painting is featured on the New Jersey quarter?

APRIL ANSWERS

1. Chicago. 2. 1982. 3. 1780, the date it still carries. 4. 25.

COIN OF THE MONTH

was anything from Mexico in honor of Cinco de Mayo, the start of the revolution that overthrew the French Emperor Maximilian. Mexican coinage has been around ever since the area was settled and the Mexico City Mint is the oldest in the Americas. Modern coinage started after the Spanish were ousted in the early 1800s. The common obverse shows the country's coat of arms consisting of an eagle sitting on a cactus and eating a snake, part of an old Aztec legend. Many variants of this design have been minted over the years. Silver was the main coinage metal as the country was rich with it. The Mexican [Pillar] Dollar (8 Reales) was the main world coin in the 17th and 18th centuries and was legal tender in this country until 1857. Mexico has minted many handsome coins over the years and Bob Fritsch displayed his Mexican Collection to demonstrate that point. Mexican coinage has fallen on hard times lately with unfavorable exchange rates (8 pesos/\$ in 1975 vs 25 pesos/\$ in 1982) and rampant inflation. The current reform seems to be holding steady now. David Heimbach won a nice variety of 13 coins, including a silver peso of the type shown in the Humphrey Bogart movie *Treasure of the High Sierra*.

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

-- 11 year-old Jenna Samson who has a collection of proof sets from her birth year to now
-- Andrew Walant who wants to be a collector of something
-- Shannon Frank who is a non collector and accompanied her dad at the meeting
-- Jeff Rapsis, who told tales of childhood collecting under the tutelage of Charlie Dube. He thought his first 1944 cent was worth millions of dollars until he discovered that number in the penny board was the mintage, not the value.
THANK YOU FOR COMING. WE ENJOYED HAVING YOU

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME?

The Nashua Pride baseball team offers group picnics with their games. Prices range from \$9 to \$18 per person which includes the food and admission to the game. The picnic area is on the Left Field line, and we can stay there for the game or go to our seats. A minimum of 25 people are required. This should be a spontaneous thing, just a bunch of us getting together for some fun. Home games on non-meeting Monday nights are 21 June, 26 July, 23 and 30 August. If we decide to do this, we must have enough committed attendees to meet the minimum. Costs would be each individual's responsibility.

ANCIENT GOLD

The Wealth of the Thracians, Treasures from the Republic of Bulgaria
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, March 31-June 6th 1999
The exhibit at the MFA is fairly small, but a fine example of the skills of goldsmithing. The fact that the gold [and silver] was wrought into splendid items of use, ritual and practical, five centuries before Christ era is worthy of note. How in the time before modern technology so much beauty could be hammered and etched into phiales [shallow dish], rhytons [drinking vessel], and pectorals [chest ornament] leaves room to ponder the world of the Thracians. Their world included migratory tribes crashing through the passes from Central Asia, untamed forests, muddy single cart highways, and distant hammering of gold besides some smoky smelter. This exhibit is a good reminder of the past from whence we came.
Andrew P. Horton

WANTED

Associate Editor for the *Nashua Numismatist*. Work commitments will take your present editor out of town frequently, and the odds are in favor of missing an issue. That is unacceptable. Candidate must have a computer with at least Windows 95. We have gotten permission to give the publishing software to another person for this specific use.

THE OTHER SAINT
The Indian Head Eagle of 1907 to 1933

By Carl Greenbaum

The \$20 gold pieces of 1907 to 1933 are commonly known as "Saints" in recognition of the brilliant sculptor Augustus Saint Gaudens. The other Saint Gaudens coin design, the \$10 Eagle, is typically grouped with the new B. L. Pratt designed Half and Quarter Eagles of that era and called "Indians". I like to think of it as the other "Saint".

The new gold coins of 1907 were the result of the unprecedented collaboration of a great sculptor and a dynamic President. Elected President in his own right in 1904, Roosevelt was unhappy with the trite Inaugural medal designed by U.S. Mint engravers Charles E. Barber and George T. Morgan. His interest in numismatic art was awakened when his artistic friends urged the commissioning of a really innovative Inaugural medal, and suggested the great American sculptor Augustus Saint Gaudens for the task. The sculptor agreed, but his busy schedule limited him to sketching the basic design on a paper napkin while on the train from Washington. He told Roosevelt that he would entrust all the actual work to his 34 year-old associate, German-born Adolph A. Weinman, better known to collectors today for his "Mercury" Dime and Walking Liberty Half Dollar.

The Saint Gaudens/Weinman Inaugural medal featured a bust of the President on the obverse, with a bold standing eagle on the reverse. Triangle-shaped "periods" divide the inscriptions on both sides. The medal received widespread acclaim, and Roosevelt went to work to force similarly creative redesign of the nation's coins on the unwilling and obstructive Chief Engraver Barber. Joyfully calling this project "my pet crime," the President rallied Saint Gaudens to the cause, although the sculptor's health was rapidly deteriorating.

Saint Gaudens immediately began work on new coinage designs. He fashioned images of Liberty in both full figure and bust motifs, and eagles in flying and standing positions, the latter derived from the reverse of the Roosevelt medal. Although he preferred the bust of Liberty and the standing eagle for the twenty dollar coin (as they appeared on the unique 1907 \$20 pattern), after much correspondence with the President throughout 1906 and early 1907, it was finally decided that this combination would appear on the \$10 gold coin.

The bust on the new eagle was almost identical to the Nike head (Victory) that Saint Gaudens designed for Sherman's monument in New York's Central Park. At Roosevelt's insistence, she shed her laurel crown for a handsome, but historically impossible Indian feathered war bonnet. LIBERTY was inscribed on the Indian's headdress, with 13 stars above the head and the date below. The reverse's eagle stands on a bundle of arrows, with the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM to the right. Encircling the periphery above the eagle is the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Below is the denomination TEN DOLLARS.

First of the new \$10 coins to be struck in 1907 were the "Wire Edge" pieces, without the raised rim traditionally on U.S. coins. Five hundred were made, with 46 raised stars on their edges symbolizing the 46 states along with one plain-edge satin proof. These all bore triangular "periods" in legend and motto. The wire edge proved impractical, however, since the coins would not stack. Next, 31,550 pieces were struck retaining the triangular periods, but both sides were protected by a "Rolled Edge" the sharply raised rims ordinarily used. Unfortunately, this change resulted in unsatisfactory striking quality. Rather than release these coins to possible public criticism, officials decided to melt all but 42 pieces. Ironically, this coin was intended for circulation, and although never officially released, it is considered a business strike not a pattern.

Under pressure to get the new eagle into circulation, Barber omitted the triangular periods and made other minor modifications. Finally, 239,406 regular-issue rolled edge pieces left the Philadelphia Mint in the fall of 1907. This design continued into early 1908. The religious motto IN GOD WE TRUST did not appear, since

President Roosevelt firmly believed that use of the Deity's name on coins smacked of blasphemy, particularly since they might be used for all sorts of immoral purposes. However, after 33,500 Philadelphia and 210,000 Denver pieces were struck, an offended Congress insisted that the lawfully mandated (Act of March 3, 1865) motto be returned to the new \$10 and \$20 coins. On the \$10 piece it was placed to the left of the eagle. Coins of this final design would be struck at the Philadelphia (no mintmark), Denver (D) and San Francisco (S) Mints. Mintmarks appear to the left of the bundle of arrows on which the eagle rests.

Regular issue coins were struck at all three Mints from 1908 through 1911, and 1914; Only Philadelphia and San Francisco struck eagles in 1912, 1913 and 1915, and only San Francisco struck them in 1916 and 1920. Few Americans noticed the change to 48 stars on the edge in 1912, honoring statehood achieved by Arizona and New Mexico. Coinage throughout the 1920's was very sporadic, representing just four dates: 1926, 1930-S, 1932 and 1933. The Philadelphia Mint struck 312,500 coins in 1933, but released only a few dozen pieces before President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 6260 ended circulation of gold coins and notes. Most 1933 Indian eagles were melted.

Proof issues of this series are known in two main types and various colorations. Matte or sandblast coins display subdued, microscopically grainy luster on needle-sharp strikes. Satin or Roman finish proofs were a short-lived experiment showing amazingly smooth, softly glowing surfaces. Matte proofs exist of the 1907 Rolled Edge, 1908 With Motto, 1909, and 1911 through 1915 issues. The Satin proofs include the unique Plain Edge 1907 piece, at least one each of the 1907 No Periods and 1908 With Motto coins, as well as coins of 1909 and 1910.

Mint records show that a total of 13,070,583 Indian Head eagles including proofs were struck in all. These figures are misleading, as the 1920-S, 1930-S and 1933 coins were melted almost in their entirety. Small hoards of both the '30-S and the '33 have shown up over the years, but none of the '20-S, making this the rarest of the three. Other very elusive dates in mint state are the 1909-D, 1911-D, 1913-S and the 1915-S. In gem condition, all ten Indians are scarce, including the issues most commonly found in mint state, the 1926 and 1932.

An achievable collection of this series would contain 27 coins including three with no motto. This set would exclude the early 1907 variants with wire edges and periods, the very rare 20-S and 30-S and, of course, the 1933. In circulated XF-AU grades, most of the 27 coins are available in the \$350-\$500 range making the "Other Saint" both beautiful and collectable.

This historical information is provided complements of NGC via the Tulving Company web site (www.tulving.com)

MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

My first trip to Washington DC was when I was 15. Going to the Mint was done the first day. The ride on the Metro to get there and back lacked the excitement of the myriad of lines now operating. Back then just one line ran in regular monotony.

But some days later, after hitting the Air and Space Museum and the office Congressman Cleveland, I had permission to venture through the Museum of American History. Section after section brought new experiences in learning. Then I hit the coin section.

An acrylic cylinder filled with Lincoln cents far higher than I rose beyond my imagination. Doubloons, half-eagles, and wedged gold pieces took my breath away. Case after case carried the history of the USA. I lost track of time and space. Far from NH, I stood amongst the wealth of a nation.

I have been back since to the Museum. Some 20 years later, most of the Museum brought back only vague remembrances. But when I turned the corner and caught sight of the coins my heartbeat rocketed. Here was where I saw coinage en masse, where the true artistry became available to ponder.

Visit it if you can. And bring your kids. There is plenty to see. Andrew P. Horton

COIN COLLECTORS ANONYMOUS (CCA)

[Thanks to Roxanne Goldberg and her internet site for this tidbit]

Rules for belonging to CCA:

[continued from a previous issue]

9. Your magnifier collection is something to be proud of.
 10. You walk around wearing your magnifier, wherever you go.
 11. You get a PO Box, just for Numismatic related materials.
 12. You must have belonged to a coin club for at least 5 years.
 13. Everyone knows you at the coin shows.
 14. You live on the Internet, posting to rec.collecting.coins.
 15. You go to work for one or more coin dealers, in order to pay for your out-of-control life style obsession love affair with coins. [courtesy of Aram H]
 16. Your preferred destination and date for this year's family vacation just happens to coincide with that of the annual ANA show.
 17. Greater than 50% of your mail is numismatic-related.
 18. You carry a list of coins you need for your collection in your briefcase, just in case someone emails you their list at work. (I want to thank Emin Ulug for the last 3 rules!)
- Are coins more important than food? Hmmm. That is food for thought!

Twelve step recovery from coin collecting:

1. We admitted we were powerless over coin collecting, and that our hobby had become unmanageable. Well, our hobby is manifestly manageable-It is our lives that have gone to Hell in a handbasket!
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could cause a recovery of our senses, and that power exists on a Hastings Triplet-at least 5x, and at most 20x.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of the many coin dealers, as we know them, or imagine them to be, fools that we are.
4. Made a searching and fearless inventory of our coin collections, in case we were ever audited on our taxes, or avoided doing this completely, for the same reason.
5. Admitted to a coin dealer, to ourselves, and to another human being, the exact nature of our obsession, er, collection.
6. Were entirely ready to have a coin dealer remove all of our money from our bank accounts...ready, willing, and able-no-insistent!
7. Humbly asked a coin dealer for a layaway plan on that special coin (Not asked, BEGGED!)
8. Made a list of all of the coins we had cherrypicked, and were ready to pay BID for them, and were ready to be buried with them-no cremation for us. Our coins would melt.
9. Made amends to all of those coin dealers who we sold whizzed or fake coins to over the years, except where they were out of business already, or deceased (or those who sold them to us in the first place).
10. Continued to take personal inventory of our collections, and when we spent the mortgage money, promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and coin clubs, to find others who might feel the way we do about collecting.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to other coin collectors, and to practice these principles in all our coin related affairs.

You know you are really hooked on coins, when:

1. You look forward to change in the supermarket.
2. Try to add up your total purchases before checkout, to see if you can maximize your change return by buying one more thing!
3. Buy rolls at the bank, and feel you have to explain yourself!
4. Start giving coins to relatives, as gifts.

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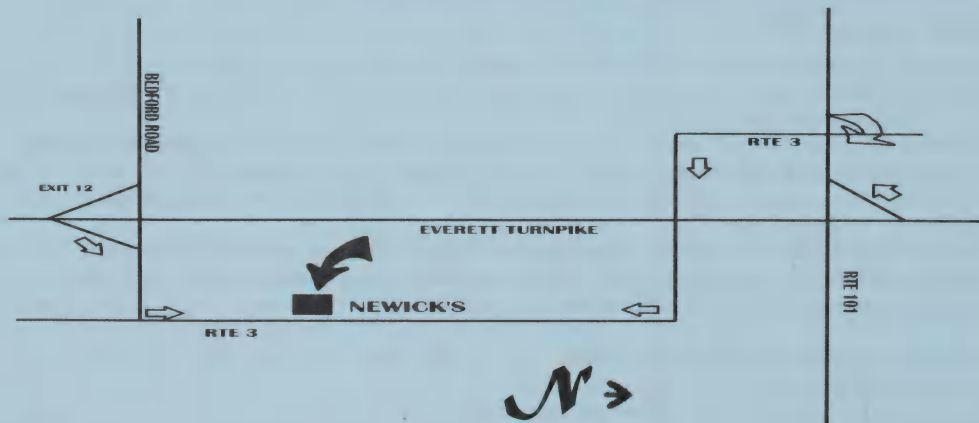
Editor - Bob Fritsch

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NEXT MEETING 14 JUNE AT NEWICK'S

FROM THE SOUTH: Take Everett Turnpike to Exit 12 (50 cent toll), turn right on Bedford Road then left on Rte 3. Newick's is about 1 mile on the left. There is a traffic light at the intersection. You can use Rte 3 North the whole distance to avoid the toll.



FROM THE NORTH: EXIT 12 CANNOT BE ACCESSED FROM THE NORTH. Take I293 south to the Rte 101 West exit and immediately get off on Rte 3 in front of Jordan Marsh. Head south, past the Manchester Country Club, across the highway and on to Newick's on the right. Total trip is about 4 miles from the exit.

NASHUA NUMISMATIST

JUNE 1999
Volume 3 Number 6
Whole Number 29

PREZ SEZ...

It was a pleasure to see such a strong turnout at the annual dinner meeting last month. Hopefully, a good time was had by all. Plenty of food, plenty of numismatic items were passed around and a lot of socializing by all in attendance made for a very festive occasion. The only minor negative that we might have to address is the expense. When there were only 20-25 of us, it was a moderately priced evening for the club. This time we had 34 in attendance, so obviously it starts getting expensive. No need to panic, but something we might want to address at a future meeting.

Fourth of July is fast approaching - Independence Day! A day that prominently figures in our coinage and currency. The bicentennial series of coins in 1976. The Franklin-Liberty Bell half dollar. The 1926 Sesquicentennial of American Independence - try finding that in MS-65! And my particular favorite - the reverse of a \$2 bill - a beautiful rendering of our founding fathers.

Don't delay - only 27 more years until America's 250th birthday. Get working on those designs right now!!!!

Keep providing material, stories, and anecdotes to this top flight publication and an associate editor is needed to aid and assist Bob Fritsch who continues to do an outstanding job.

Until next time - Happy 4th
Alan

JUNE QUIZ

This month's quiz centers on the NH Quarter which is reported elsewhere in this issue.

1. Why did the Governor choose 21 June as the date of the announcement?
2. What is the order of NH's statehood, and why is it significant?
3. A famous story was written about the Old Man of the Mountain in the 1850s. What is its title and who wrote it?
4. The state's motto was part of a toast. Who said it?

BONUS: What was the entire toast?

MAY ANSWERS

1. They are coins of the Scottish kings. 2. Lincoln cent. 3. Vermont Sesquicentennial of 1927. 4. *Washington Crossing the Delaware.*

JUNE HILITES

The annual banquet was held at Newicks in Merrimack, NH, instead of our regular meeting. The evening was started by a brief greeting by President Brioullard. Tim Walant presented a certificate to his mentor, Bob Fritsch. 33 members and guests were in attendance. Everybody had a good meal and everybody had an open choice of dessert. This is by far the largest banquet that the club has hosted in over ten years.

NH QUARTER DESIGN CHOSEN

On 21 June 1999, Governor Jeanne Shaheen announced that she had chosen the design for the New Hampshire Quarter, part of the 50 States Quarter Program. The design has the Old Man of the Mountain as its central motif with nine stars and the state's motto "Live Free or Die." The quarter will be released in August of 2000.



SHOW CALENDAR

- 11 Jul - Auburn
- 11 Jul - Brunswick, ME
- 18 JUL - 3rd SUNDAY, HOLIDAY INN**
- 23-24 Jul - Mansfield MA
- 25 Jul - Chelmsford
- 11-15 Aug - ANA Chicago
- 15 AUG - 3rd SUNDAY, HOLIDAY INN**
- 22 Aug - Chelmsford
- 27 - 29 Aug - Rochester, NH

KERMIT THE...COIN COLLECTOR

How do you promote 50 stylish quarters over the airwaves?

I would have placed my faith in Joe Pesci "You want quarters, we got quarters" or Ken Burns "The American soul is stamped on each and every quarter" [too touchy feely, but popular with so many]". But the Bureau decided to go green, not the greenbacks, but the all green suave amphib movie star called Kermit. Yes, Kermit the FROG is the spokesfrog to the US Mint.

Here is how it works. The setting is a video arcade. A young boy, aka target population, complains about weird looking quarters. Kermit hops in and give him a history lesson on the quarters and meanings [Conn. and New Jersey were spotlighted]. Young boy is impressed and the frog caps of the short with some choice words. I just don't know.

There is something unsettling about a frog whose "glory days" are over being selected.

Can we ask the youth of NCC to give their input on whom they might have selected?

Or did the Mint hope to get the 35+ crowd, many with children, to encourage parent/child collecting?

That question may never, ever be known.

We can only surmise what awesome powers were unleashed in order to get Kermit the Frog to get off the lily pad and make hay for the Mint.

Maybe we can thank, or curse, the Budweiser folks for the placing of amphibians [and reptiles] on to the front burner of marketing.

Just don't put Kermit on some half dollar half a century from now. Please.

Andrew P Horton



A BILL OF ART

There are just some bills that are just so beautiful the world should know about them. This is one. It won an award for best artistic effect. I first saw it while serving in the Peace Corps. Fellow volunteers fawned over it. All others seemed dreary, even claustrophobic. This bill has action, a loading of national cargo [bananas and coffee] with people alive. The colors are bright and inviting, far better than other bills of the same nationality.

Unfortunately I have not retained a living example of this work of art. Those heading to the Tropical Switzerland may want to seek out these paper gems.

As a note, both coffee and bananas have strong smells. On a hot day, which is everyday on the coast, the combined strength of the air is enough to put life on a higher plain.

Also, coffee is best as a highland crop, though lowland coffee makes lowgrade coffee. Conversely bananas are lowland crops which do ok at higher altitudes. Two national crops that did not crowd each other out. Finally, bananas are herbs, the biggest in the world.

Andrew P. Horton

**Tim gives a
big grin
and shows
off his shirt**



**John and
Ken pose for
the camera**



.....a Point of
View.....

from.....

Small Cents II



Greetings

everyone! Summer is here and the 50 States quarter program is in full swing. The first three states are out and in circulation and the 1999 proof set has been released so the collecting frenzy is upon us and spreading like wild fire throughout the country. We get on the average of 5 or 6 calls a day concerning the new quarters. It's amazing how much mis-information is out there. If you haven't already ordered you proof sets, I would recommend you do so ASAP as I can almost guarantee prices in excess of \$35.00 on the secondary market. Dealers are having a very difficult time lining up orders for proof sets as the mint has changed the distribution process this year and they will be very limited, so don't procrastinate! Order your sets now!

We now have in stock a wide variety of collector books and holders for the new quarters. We have two very attractive thumbster styles available at \$3.25 each (\$2.75 for club members). One has just the 1999 coins in both P and D issues and the other has the P and D issues from 1999 thru 2003, with volume two to follow! We also have three varieties of the Dansco albums in stock; 1999 to 2003 including P and D and both proof issues for \$22.95 (\$19.95 for club members) volume two is available to

complete the set; 1999 to 2008 including P and D issues for \$22.95 (\$19.95 for club members); and a date set album for all 10 years and all fifty issues for \$20.95 (\$17.95 to club members). We also have a nice 5pc holder for the year which sells for \$2.95 and has plastic slides on both sides to view both sides of the coins.

I'm spending another summer chasing my son around to baseball fields as usual and preparing for his 1st year at St. Joseph's College in Maine. Also, I'm moving my daughter into her new home in Connecticut this weekend as she has already embarked on her accounting career with Price-Waterhouse Cooper.

I'm finalizing plans for my trip to the ANA in Chicago in August and looking anxiously forward to it. Remember to give me any want lists you may have before I head out.

The coin market remains strong even allowing for the normal summertime slowdown and business has remained brisk on the internet as well as in the mail and at the store. So I'm kept hopping trying to juggle baseball, family and the coin business but then what else is new.

I really enjoyed our annual dinner at Newicks and thought they did a wonderful job for us. I hope everyone else enjoyed it as well. It's gratifying to see such a large turnout and so many new faces. It shows our club is continuing to grow and thrive which is great for the future of Numismatics in Nashua. We all deserve a pat on the back for the way our club has grown and improved.

Running out of time and space so I'll sign off for this issue and wish you all a healthy prosperous summer.

Best Regards,

Gary

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Librarian - Roger Levesque
Editor - Bob Fritsch

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Phone queries may be made to 881-9211. The Club meets on the second Monday of every month in the Chandler Memorial Library, 257 Main Street, Nashua.

NEXT MEETING 12 JULY AT THE LIBRARY

SEND ME AN EMAIL...

... to rfritsch@concentric.net so I may place your address in the NCC collective list. The list will be distributed electronically only to those who are on it. Thanks.

WANTED

Associate Editor for the *Nashua Numismatist*. Work commitments will take your present editor out of town frequently, and the odds are in favor of missing an issue. That is unacceptable. Candidate must have a computer with at least Windows 95. We have gotten permission to give the publishing software to another person for this specific use.

AN INTERESTING LINK

<http://eldred.ne.mediaone.net/nh/gsf.html>



NASHUA NUMISMATIST

JULY 1999

Volume 3 Number 7

Whole Number 30

JULY HILITES

--14 members and three guests present.

--ANA Election votes for NCC nominees, Arthur Fitts and Bill Horton.

--"Has Theodore Roosevelt ever appeared on a US Coin?" YES, on the Mount Rushmore commems

--Show and Tell included a 1916 and a 1927 Standing Liberty Quarter which were used for side-by-side comparison for the many detail differences between the two types; a wrapper from Lindt Chocolate that shows an Italian 100,000 Lire note; a New Jersey quarter which shows bad boatmanship; these quarter were noted with die breaks, doubling, and the two "S"'s in "Crossroads" appear to be upside down; a set of Australian 50 cent pieces of 1966, 81, 85, 1970 Captain Cook Bicentennial, 82 Commonwealth Games, and 95 "Weary" Dunlap (WWII aviator). More treasure finds -- an arrowhead medal, 1853 trime, a Spanish coin, a charm bracelet, an 1831 large cent in VF found in a cellar hole, and some over stamped coins.

--How about those Nashua *Telegraph* articles? The Secretary suggested that someone take over the program.

--Visit report to the Museum at the Boston Federal Reserve Bank. The museum is in their cellar, and only private tours are given.

--How many non-collectors are collecting the 50 States coins? Lots, which is ready-made publicity for the hobby.

--The auction brought spirited bidding and good deals were there to be had.

PREZ SEZ...

Even though many of us have many more social events, vacations, etc. in the summer months, it was nice to see another strong turnout at the July meeting. Various interesting show and tell, good discussions and an extensive auction selection were just some of the highlights. It was only a couple years ago, that small attendance and a lack of discussion/materials would create evenings that I thought to myself, "How are we going to Fill 2 hours?" Now, with strong turnouts and a wealth of material, discussion and auction items, I think, "Can we get everything done in only 2 hours!?" What a nice problem to have! Any club is only as good as the enthusiasm you bring to a meeting. This year it has been great -- please keep up the good work. Upcoming items/reminders for August: Roger to bring donuts. Readdress the Nashua Telegraph coin articles to be submitted by the NCC, twice a month, where we can educate the public while you and the club make money. And last, but not least the coin of the month (no raffle) a modern commemorative. For more on that subject, see the article in this issue submitted by yours truly. See you in August, enjoy the summer.

Alan

JULY QUIZ

This month's questions concern the Modern Commemorative Series:

1. What are the main elements of the Georgia Quarter?
2. The Dolley Madison Commemorative was designed by what jewelery company?
3. Who is the only currently-living person to grace a US coin in the modern series?
4. How many coins in the modern series has Congress awarded to *itself*?

JUNE ANSWERS

1. It is the anniversary date of NH ratification of the Constitution.
2. NH is the ninth state, which is the enabling vote of the Constitution. In other words, NH is the State That Made Us a Nation.
3. "The Great Stone Face" by Nathaniel Hawthorne.
4. General John Stark sent a toast to his wartime comrades in 1809: "Live Free Or Die; Death Is Not The Worst Of Evils."

GEORGIA QUARTER

By the time this newsletter reaches you, the Georgia Quarter should be at the banks (at least our favorite one). All members are encouraged to get a couple of rolls and spend them into circulation.

RIGHT IN OUR OWN BACKYARD: THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF BOSTON

by Bart Bartanowicz

I was recently down at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston where I participated on a Y2K panel composed of federal, state and public utility companies. My presentation centered on the FAA's readiness for Y2K as well as my prediction for overseas airports. During my presentation I mentioned that I was a coin collector and brought up some of the Y2K ads that are appearing in our numismatic world.

Following my presentation an employee of the Federal Reserve who asked if I had seen their collection of colonial currency and coins approached me. I had to admit that I didn't know that they had a collection and worst of all I didn't have time to visit the collection. Fortunately I was provided a business card and some wonderful material which I will share with you at our August meeting.

If you are interested in a tour you can find out their hours on their web site which is, www.bos.frb.org

The web site will all also provide you links to the other 11 Federal Reserve Banks who also have collections. From what I understand, the San Francisco Bank is the premiere site to visit either in person or via the web.

©1999 by Robert. Bartanowicz

THE WONDERFUL ?? WORLD OF MODERN COMMEMORATIVES

Alan Brouillard

Some people might say that the era of modern commemoratives started with the 1982 George Washington 250th anniversary of birth issue, some MIGHT say that the 1976 bicentennial coinage got the ball rolling, but whatever and whenever this new era started there has been and continues to be plenty of discussion, pro and con, on the series. Excessive mintage, issues and boring designs are just some of the negatives. However, in the last decade lower mintages, fewer issues and some interesting designs have appeared to renew interest in this area of collecting.

Could it be that the feedback, positive and negative, by the numismatic community has been heard and acted upon? Now that's a radical concept. There have been successes and failures with regard to secondary market pricing - but that is any collectable, or even Wall Street for that matter. Collecting this series should be the same as ANY OTHER SERIES. Are you interested in it? Do you like the design? Is it affordable? In some cases, it is raising money for a specific cause or group that you feel strongly about? If you can answer yes to these questions then go for it. If not, there are all kinds of other series you can concentrate on. Two last points to ponder - 1. You certainly will be getting these coins in superb condition. 2. Only 60-80 years ago the modern commemoratives of that era were hotly debated pro and con, wouldn't we like to have bought some of those at the vastly inflated prices paid back then, 2 - 3 even 4 times face value. Everything is relative, maybe we will look back not too many years from now and say THESE were the good old days.

SHOW CALENDAR

11-15 Aug - ANA Chicago

**15 AUG - 3rd SUNDAY,
HOLIDAY INN**

22 Aug - Chelmsford

29 Aug - New Bedford

27 - 29 Aug - Rochester, NH

12 Sep - Auburn

**19 SEP - 3rd SUNDAY,
HOLIDAY INN**

22-26 Sep - Long Beach, CA

26 Sep - Blackstone Valley
CC, Milford, MA

26 Sep - Chelmsford



ANA MEMBER CLUB

COIN OF THE MONTH

is MODERN COMMEMORATIVES, the Best and Worst. Due to the cost involved, this is a discussion only -- no raffle will be held.



.....a Point of
View.....

from.....

Small Cents II



The Dog

days are upon us and I guess nobody feels it more than me. I really need a vacation, too bad I can't afford to take one but anyway.... I hope you all are enjoying your summer.

We are in the midst of the usual summer slowdown in the coin business. Indian Cents, Lincoln Cents, and Washington quarters remain hot. Silver dollars have been steady but there has been a pretty sharp decline in demand for circulated common dates and wholesale prices are down to the \$7 to \$8 range for circulated Morgans and \$6 to \$7 range for peace dollars. The internet has been sporadic as well with type coins in circulated grades, Lincoln cents, and better date BU dollars being the strongest areas in my online auctions. Although, interest remains strong for all collectable coin series, especially quarters, collectors seem to be a bit preoccupied with their other summertime pursuits, a preoccupation which I must say I share totally. Between baseball games and golf among other things, most days I can think of a zillion things I'd rather be doing than hanging around the shop. With my son finishing up his last year of High school and legion baseball, I'm even more determined not to miss a game than usual. And, as I'm sure all you fellow golfers will agree, you

gotta play to improve but most weeks seem to be over before I get a chance to do so.

Interest in the 50 States Quarter program remains strong with new collectors dropping by every week to start their books. We are selling a ton of the new Harris thumb busters and a fair amount of the Dansco albums as well. Finally got my hands on a few of the Proof sets and also a few of the quarters only sets but I'm being unsuccessful in all attempts to line up any substantial quantities of either. I really hope everyone has taken advantage of the online opportunity and purchased theirs as I really believe these are sure winners!

Just got the Auction catalog for the Heritage ANA auction; 3,321 lots in 5 sessions! I'm anxiously looking forward to the show, the convention, and especially the auction. I'll be closed from August 10th through the 14th to attend, so if anyone needs anything, touch base with me before then.

Speaking of Auctions, my next Small Cents II Auction is scheduled for September 18th. We are looking for consignments so if you have anything to include let me know. I should have all the paperwork done by then to have my own auctioneers license in place as well.

For you treasure hunters and metal detectorists among us, if sale in my store of White's metal detectors are any indication, you may be finding things a bit crowded in the Nashua area, when you go out searching. Sales of machines have more than tripled this year over last, I guess the White's TV infomercials are having the desired effect. I'd be interested to hear your comments on this.

Well, so long for now, hope I can make the next meeting but I have a feeling I'll be in Manchester at Gill Stadium. Til next time, warmest regards.....Gary

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VP1 - Gary Galbo
VP2 - Carl Greenbaum
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NEXT MEETING 9 AUGUST AT THE LIBRARY

The Secretary will not be at the August meeting due to travel to the ANA Convention in Chicago. Somebody will have to take the minutes during his absence.



NASHUA NUMISMATIST

AUGUST 1999
Volume 3 Number 8
Whole Number 31

PREZ SEZ...

Summertime, and the living is easy. It has been nice to see continued strong attendance during the summer months, when vacations and many outdoor activities can alter our plans. I went to a local coin dealer this week who was lamenting the fact that this was a slow time of year for the above reasons. So kudos again for the turnout at our recent meetings.

As always, we continue to need material for our fine publication, THE NASHUA NUMISMATIST, and we still need an associate editor to help/assist/fill-in for Bob Fritsch who has done a fabulous job.

For those of you who are so inclined, submit a 500 word article on a numismatic related topic for publication in the NASHUA TELEGRAPH, and you can make some money for you and the Nashua Coin Club. Looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on Monday, Sept 13 at the library. Coin of the month will be anything from Europe. The summer will be over, and the living not so easy. Until then,
Alan

AUGUST HILITES

-- 14 members and two first time guests present.

-- Frank Clark and Dan Walker were introduced and gave a brief talk on their collecting interests.

-- The list of ANA Outstanding Club Publication Awards for 1999 was read to members, many of whom were shocked and outraged that the Nashua Numismatist was not selected for national recognition.

-- The series of articles for the Nashua Telegraph was discussed - 500 word articles pertaining to our hobby to inform the general public. It was decided that the \$30.00 per article that the Telegraph would pay would be evenly divided between author and club.

-- Roger Levesque had a show and tell on some Buffalo nickles, Roosevelt dimes and Washington quarters with curious mintmarks.

-- Bart Bartanowicz spoke about his visit to the Federal Reserve bank and shared some materials he had received during that visit.

-- Ken Cable shared material on his latest metal detecting finds.

COIN OF THE MONTH...

...was Modern Commemoratives. Many items were passed around, and an extensive discussion followed on topics such as designs, secondary pricing, mintages either too large or too small. It was generally agreed that if you like the series then collect and enjoy, while others want nothing to do with them. That's what makes a hobby interesting. There is no one correct answer. **Next Month: Anything Europe.**

AUGUST QUIZ

We will attempt to write these quizzes around the Coin of the Month. So here are four questions pertaining to Anything Europe.

1. What is the term used to describe the German Emergency Money following World War I?

2. Bimetallic coins are issued by most countries in the world, and although they have been around for centuries, one country started the current craze in 1982. What was that country?

3. What country uses a Crowned M for its mintmark?

4. What country depicts its queen with such innovative designs as contour lines and rotoengraving dots?

JULY ANSWERS

1. Outline of the state, a peach, state motto. 2. Tiffany's. 3.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver on the Special Olympics Dollar (1995). [ALT: Nolan Ryan on the 1992 Olympic Baseball Dollar.] 4. Five: 1989 Congress Bicentennial=1, 1997 Botanic Gardens=1.

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SHOW CALENDAR

12 Sep - Auburn
**19 SEP - 3rd SUNDAY,
HOLIDAY INN**
22-26 Sep - Long Beach, CA
26 Sep - Blackstone Valley
CC, Milford, MA
26 Sep - Chelmsford
1-3 Oct - Rochester, NH
16 OCT - TRI STATE,
CONCORD
**17 OCT - 3rd SUNDAY,
HOLIDAY INN**
17 Oct - Springfield, MA
24 Oct - Chelmsford
24 Oct - Auburn
30-31 Oct - NENA,
WATERBURY, CT
31 Oct - New Bedford

GOODIES

While at ANA, I picked up several goodies to share with you. I won't tell you what all I got so it will be a surprise each month when a new one arrives. While some may consider these hokey, I think they're neat. This month is a Dolley Madison Dollar bookmark from the Mint.

EDITORIAL

This issue is a small one. We didn't get any articles in from our regular contributors. Thanks to Alan for his always informative column, and to Ken Young who will get his piece published next issue. The quality of this publication depends upon each of you to make it happen.

With the start of the regular numismatic season, it is time to look forward a few months to the elections in January. Alan has served as President for several years now and he has indicated that this is his last term. That means that somebody has to step forward to take his place. I have been Sec'y-Treasurer for the same amount of time. While I would like to continue, an increasing travel load may prevent me from doing so. Please consider taking office in this august organization. You will be surprised how good it makes you feel.

Bob

PS I will again miss the meeting. Someone please take minutes. Thanks.

**NEXT MEETING 13
SEPTEMBER AT THE LIBRARY**

PREZ SEZ

Looking forward to our next meeting, our annual pizza party at Small Cents II on Monday, October 11, 1999. Just a reminder that seating is limited, so if you can bring a chair or two, it would be appreciated. We will attempt to follow a typical meeting agenda, except the break will be from 7:45 to 8:15. Many thanks to Gary Galbo, for inviting us in to his place of business. It is a nice environment to have a coin meeting in, and is a nice change of pace from our meetings at the library. Coin of the month will be anything from Central/South America, but not Mexico as we did Mexican coinage earlier this year. As usual, bring in your show and tells, latest finds/purchases and any auction items you may have. It should be a busy, entertaining, and interesting evening. And last, but not least, don't forget to bring your appetites.

Regards, Alan

SEPTEMBER HILITES

- 12 members and five guests present
- Several guests and prospective new members - Bill Kelliher and Anthony Danieli. Bill passed around an 1900-O/CC dollar for verification and viewing.
- The next meeting October 11, Pizza Party at Small Cents II. Seating is limited so any help with folding chairs will be appreciated.
- Upcoming election of club

officers: new people encouraged to run for office. President stepping down. Time for new blood!

- Ken Cable told of his latest finds - 1786 Connecticut copper and 1718 Spanish silver minor.
- Tim Samson and Bruce Heimbach presented the club with a Bell and Gavel set they made at Bronzecraft, with an engraved medallion inscribed "Nashua Coin Club established 1960".
- Andrew Horton brought in some Time magazines from 1969 predicting our future in outer space travel most of which has not come to pass.
- Roger Levesque held a free raffle in which he awarded 5 small bag lots of nickels, primarily buffalos, to lucky winners utilizing some old coin club raffle tickets from a bygone era.

-- Gary Galbo discussed his trip to the ANA. "If you've never been to an ANA convention, you've never really been to a coin show!" He discussed viewing and the subsequent sale of the 1804 dollar by Bowers and Merena, talk about a real fantasy coin! \$4.15 Million.

Auction of 6 assorted lots was conducted by Charlie Dube.

COINS OF THE MONTH

... were Foreign coins the and 7 assorted pieces were won in the raffle by Andrew Horton. Next month: **Central and South America (less Mexico)**

SEPTEMBER QUIZ

We will attempt to write these quizzes around the Coin of the Month. This month: Central and South America.

1. The hero of Chile's war for independence and its first Head of State had an unusual name. Who was he?
2. The Central American Republic of 1823-1839 was composed of which modern countries?
3. What Spanish explorer gave his name to the currency of Panama?
4. How many Latin American (less Mexico) countries have used the PESO in this century?

AUGUST ANSWERS

1. Notgeld (Not is German for emergency).
2. Italy, with the bimetallic 500 Lire coin.
3. Spain.
4. Netherlands.

SHOW CALENDAR

- 1-3 Oct - Rochester, NH
- 16 OCT - TRI STATE, CONCORD
- 17 OCT - 3rd SUNDAY, HOLIDAY INN
- 17 Oct - Springfield, MA
- 24 Oct - Chelmsford
- 24 Oct - Auburn
- 30-31 Oct - NENA, WATERBURY, CT
- 31 Oct - New Bedford
- 5-7 Nov - Bay State Boston
- 7 Nov - Portland, ME
- 12-14 Nov - Baltimore
- 21 NOV - 3rd SUNDAY, HOLIDAY INN
- 28 Nov - Chelmsford

IS THERE A COIN SEASON?

"Coin Season" seems to be a term that I hear more and more. The season apparently starts around late September and ends in late April or thereabouts. The term appears within our own club as well in various numismatic periodicals. In my decades of collecting I haven't really thought about coin collecting as having any particular season. On the other hand, before arriving in New Hampshire most of my life (except for four years in Colorado Springs) was spent in rather temperate climates where winter was a mere passing.

Looking at my own activities I have to admit to being more active in the winter months than during fairer climes. So perhaps coin season is an alternative to "cabin fever" for those of us who don't engage in winter sports/activities. Also it does seem that people are more involved at local shows and auctions during what I term the "dark ages" as we lose daylight. Conversely some of our largest numismatic activities take place during the summer months such as the ANA convention and major auctions. All in all, I guess there is a coin season in New England. As for other parts of the country, I'm not convinced.

As always I'm more than willing to hear contrary views—but you won't change my mind! Just kidding....?

Bart

GOODY OF THE MONTH

Each year, The Elongated Collectors (TEC) have a booth at the ANA, and every year, there is a TEC design to roll into your coins. This month's goody is that design rolled onto 1999D cents.

UN INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE DISABLED PERSONS

Andrew P. Horton

Back in 1981, my personal interest in coin collecting was waning. And a full decade would pass before I would answer my calling, working in the field of disability. But that year, by UN decree, the International Year of Disabled Persons was declared. Nation after nation minted coins to reflect this.

Now I am no expert. I have neither seen nor collected any. What follows is based on limited research. To my knowledge only Australia among the continents, did not participate. Most nations minted theirs for 1981, but the Maldives Islands coined theirs in 1984 [100 Rufiyaa]. Other coins were minted in 1982 and 1983.

For those in need of a geographic fix, here are the nations continent by continent

ASIA: Bhutan, Maldives, Turkey, Yemen--Arab Republic, Yemen--People's Democratic Republic.

AMERICAS: Eastern Caribbean States.

AFRICA: Botswana, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Somalia, Sudan.

EUROPE: Malta.

Malta stamped their 5 Liri in 1983. The Eastern Caribbean States decided that \$50 coinage was their determination. This was done in 1981. On that number, here are the years and their corresponding # of mintings: 1981 - 8; 1982 - 1; 1983 - 4; 1984 - 1.

The highest denomination was the 3000 Lira from Turkey. Turkey used both the Istanbul and British Royal Mint. The lowest denomination went to nearby Yemen [PDR] which was a mere 2 Dinars.

The nations represented seven overwhelmingly or predominately Islamic states, four island nations, a mountain kingdom based on Buddhist theocracy, and Malta seems to best represent those participating nations...an island, Islamic [a good minority], and tied historically to Great Britain.

So what's the verdict? Collect, ask, learn. And dollar to dinar, do publicity coins make social change?

GOLD PRICES

Ken Young

With the stock market taking a plunge, the price of gold finally has gone up over 300. Remember Gary saying about a year ago, that it would never dip below 300?

Now 327, according to the NBR.

Ha. The gold bugs finally have a glimmer of hope, due apparently to a couple countries, maybe South Africa, saying they would not sell any more of their gold reserves this year. Just wait till the Russians unload some, the price will probably skid down again.

DID YOU KNOW

...banking began in churches. It was secure [biggest place in town] and had holy blessing

...the word bank comes the word bench in Italian 'banca' where early commerce took place

...that the clay called pygg was used to make coin holders. Later, after dinner, they became shaped like pigs to fit the myth

Andrew P. Horton



.....a Point of
View.....
from.....
Small Cents II

ANA Chicago.....Fabulous!
If you've never attended an ANA, you've never really been to a coin show! You name it, it's there. Everything from bargain box fillers to a Proof 68 1804 Silver dollar... yes that one... only took \$4.15 million dollars to find a new home (plus buyers fees of course). If I haven't already said so, I had a great time in Chicago and a usual came home with almost empty pockets but a briefcase full of coins and a wealth of numismatic experiences.

From a dealers prospective, attendance was strong and business was brisk. I was at a table with a good friend, but was not actually set up and selling. As is my usual MO for these shows, I was there to buy, but my friend was very busy and in fact had his best selling show ever. As for buying, I came back broke but found competition for good coins very strong and had to pay a little more than I had hoped to pretty much across the board for just about everything I was interested in.

Attendance at the Heritage Auction sessions, particularly the first session, was very high. The room was packed for the first session and bidding was fierce. After 6 hours of bidding on early colonials, half cents and large cents, I was only successful bidder on

one lot! I bid on over 150 lots! Needless to say I was very disappointed and concerned that my trip may not prove to be very cost effective. Many lots were hammered down for nearly double my projected values!

I returned to my hotel room and stayed up to the wee hours of the morning reassessing my planned bids for the next morning's session and doing a little fine tuning. The second session for me was the key to the auction as it contained large lots, sets, and partial sets which I usually target as my means to purchasing new stock. This session wasn't quite so heavily attended and my results were much better as I managed to be high bidder on an additional 14 lots. I didn't fracture my budget limitations and although I didn't think there were any great bargains, I was happy overall with my purchases.

Activity on the bourse floor was a bit more sporadic as good deals were a little harder to find, but the displays from world mints and a wide variety of numismatic related topics were fascinating. I never took a count but I would say at least 20 world mints were represented. Of course the 1804 dollar was on display at Bowers and Merena's booth as well, though nobody envisioned it would bring over \$4 million dollars just two weeks later!

Another fabulous display was the treasure coins and bars from wreck of the Central America, on display by Sotheby's and scheduled to be auctioned off later this year.

Overall the show was one of the best ANA's I've attended with 18 rows of booths I would venture to say you couldn't possibly see everything there was to be seen, although I tried mightily.

Quick reminder... Small Cents II auction September 18, 1999 at the Holiday Inn.

Regards,

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NEXT MEETING 11 OCTOBER AT SMALL CENTS II 95 W. Pearl St, Nashua

CAN I HAVE IT IN OPIUM?

Andrew P. Horton

This is NOT an article to encourage drug use. But there is a story to be told. Long ago opium was a medium of exchange. Ironically it was in a land where paper money is assumed to have been invented.

Back at the start of last century [1800's], when America was just on the first half dozen presidents, China was importing most of the 30 million tons of tea to Great Britain by 1820. Europe in the year 1652 was "invaded" by three potent drugs. Coffee came from Arabia. Cocoa came from America. And tea came from far away China. Suddenly Europe was off beer, wine, and muddy water. Of course Great Britain took to tea.

The British paid in hard currency, Spanish-American silver dollars. The Chinese brought little in return, choosing to amass silver that was embarrassing and impoverishing the British. Now here is the dope.

Bit by bit the Chinese people smoked more and more opium. And by the mid 1830's China had sent its silver back to the British. The Chinese had no serious currency. And opium was everywhere. It's standard dollar called peng-yang sat out of reach in London. So by common usage, the Chinese used opium as a medium of exchange. The opium was lighter to carry, easier to conceal, standard in value, could be smoked, and was in demand.

China has since put the brakes on opium currency. But history has seen substances [coffee, salt, tea, and others] used as "virtual currency". Tea, opium, and some well traveled Spanish dollars. Just another twist in a strand on the rope of history.

Taken from the book *The Birth of the Modern* by Paul Johnson

PREZ SEZ...

It was a pleasure seeing another strong turnout at the October pizza party meeting at Small Cents II. A good time was had by all, and there was plenty of food to go around. Thanks again to Gary Galbo, for his hospitality in letting us use his coin shop to conduct the meeting.

Please keep submitting articles, stories, and information for your club newsletter. It is only as good as you want it to be, so keep those cards and letters coming in.

I wish to repeat 2 important requests to the membership. First, we need an assistant editor for the newsletter to take some of the load off of Bob Fritsch, who continues to do a fabulous job putting out this newsletter. If you have the time/talent please consider lending a hand.

Second, a new slate of officers will be elected at the January, 2000 meeting. Again, if you have the desire to serve, please come forward and offer your talents. Coin of the month will be the Kennedy Half Dollar. Just a very quick aside on my part. Of all the coins that circulate, Kennedy is the only person that I remember in my lifetime. Ike and FDR predate me just a little bit. I look at that coin, and still feel a sense of loss these 36 years after the fact. I think it is a strong design, and I have never understood why halves have not been popular in circulation. Something to ponder and discuss when we meet on November 8th at the library. Until then, Alan

OCT HILITES

-- Special Pizza Party meeting!
-- 18 members were present.
-- New members Jenna Samson and Frank Clark were introduced and welcomed.

-- An insurance offer brought up the subject of liability: Does the city cover any injury at the Library? It was assumed so.

-- Alan Brouillard gave away a "special" coin to whomever could tell its significance. The 1918 cent, minted in the year the Red Sox last won the World Series, was won by Bob Fritsch.

-- Members were encouraged to run for office in the next election.

-- Pierre Dionne showed a couple of toned coins which sparked a large discussion of toning and coin doctoring. Gary Galbo gave a demonstration of how a coin's appearance can be improved by dipping.

-- Five pizzas and eight liters of soda were consumed. The offerings of Mushroom (2), Pepperoni, Green Pepper and Onion, and Cheese disappeared rapidly.

-- Ken Cable showed a couple of British Halfpennies.

-- Bart Bartanowicz shared his latest article in Coins Magazine with the club as it is about the club. A copy is attached to these minutes.

-- Bob Fritsch reported on his experiences at ANA and showed his exhibit award, second place in class.

-- There was discussion about next year's ANA in Philadelphia which promises to be a super one.

-- Gary Galbo reported on his September auction which was not a good one. He will switch to evening sessions at his next auction on 27 November.
-- The NENA show is in Waterbury, CT on 30-31 October.

OCTOBER QUIZ

Let's see what you know about Kennedy Halves....

1. Who designed the obverse and reverse of the Kennedy Half Dollar?
2. Of all the "circulation" Kennedy Halves, which ones are unlikely to be found in circulation?
3. In which years were the silver-clad Kennedy Halves minted?
4. What controversy surrounds the designer's initials on the obverse of this coin?

SEPTEMBER ANSWERS

1. Bernardo O'Higgins. 2. Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica. 3. Vasco Nunez de Balboa. 4. 11: Argentina, Chile, Columbia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Uruguay.

GREETINGS FROM SAN DIEGO

Your editor just managed to compose this newsletter before embarking on another trip to a Navy installation. That is the reason for the San Diego postmark. Enjoy the issue. Bob

COIN OF THE MONTH

Anything from Central and South America (less Mexico).

The Quiz was reviewed and answers showed that the members did their research well. There were many and varied coins shown around, but no raffle. The region has always been volatile and devaluations a matter of course. Even today, some beautifully printed banknotes are worthless to any but the collector.

Next: Kennedy Half

Form Andrew Horton:

-- From what Island in the Solomon Islands did the Coastwatcher Reginald Evans set in motion the rescue of the crew of Kennedy's PT-109?

>>Kolombangara

-- What nation did Kennedy's US Peace Corps first serve in?

>>Ghana

GHANA GET SOME

by Andrew P.

What is perhaps most striking of Ghana coinage is the presence of cocoa plant motif. Ghana has literally banked on cocoa to build a nation. Price fluctuations can ravage an economy like a cocoa fungus. Thus Ghana may have tried to encourage buyers with its major commodity on some of its coins. It would not be a stretch to say the Ghana coins drummed up business with the native drum motif that graces the PESEWA, 1/2 PESEWA, 5 CEDIS, 50 and 500 CEDIS. The chocolate we eat is sweet for those nations able to cash in on the cash crop. But in bad years, it is a bittersweet reminder of the value of change to a diversified economy.

SONG OF THE SOLOMONS

by Andrew Horton

Deep in the South Pacific, distant in time from its wartime fame and infamy, the Republic of the Solomon Islands attracts little attention or notice. Thousands of years of primitive development, a brief colonial affair, and a pretty unexciting economic base of timber, coconuts, fish, and little minerals has made the Solomons distinctly sleepy to most in the USA. Full independence in 1978 has brought little more than freedom. And even that is relative.

Their coinage is based on the 100 cents to a dollar, perhaps a bow to the overwhelming American might of WW2 that sidelined the Commonwealth war contributions. The Franklin Mint has been the source for minting. Coins come in 1-2-5-10-20-50 cents and dollar denominations. Her majesty, QE 2, graces the obverse. The reverse comes in two categories...island motif and other. The Eagle Spirit of MALAITA [2 cents], the Native Mask of SANTA ISABEL [5 cents], and the Pendant Design of MALAITA [50 cents]...Malaitans wield much political pull.

The one cent piece is a Food Bowl of UN Food and Agriculture vintage. The 1988 50 cent piece is 10th Anniversary of Independence. The 10 cent piece is the Ngorieru Sea Spirit. And the lofty dollar has Nusu-Nusu Head of another Sea Spirit...obvious signs of an island nation and a still lively animist religion.

A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS? -OR- MY ACHING BACK!

I recently submitted my monthly column for Coins magazine and the subject was "dirty money." The story revolves around the seemingly modern aversion of people not wanting to pick up change off the street. As a young lad in the late 40s and early 50s picking up change off the street was the equivalent of hitting the lottery. This was probably due to the fact that five cents had real purchasing power, perhaps candy or a soda. Of course times have changed as evidenced by conversations at both the club level and in numismatic publications over whether or not we really need the one-cent piece.

Of course there are always other factors about picking up change off the street. Our parents always warned us about disease-ridden coins on the street. Also a recent major network ran a story on how "filthy" paper money was. Their analysis found remnants of cocaine, fecal matter and other disgusting substances on the bills. By the way, I consider that network piece to be part of a vast conspiracy by the "plastic people" (who are really aliens—but let me save that for another column...) who are bent on destroying currency, as we know it!

Even yours truly is somewhat hesitant to pick up coins off the street. Just the other day while stepping out of my car to stop at my favorite "national chain" coffee shop in Burlington, MA, I spotted a shiny dime in a puddle of water. Starting to bend over to pick it up, my aching back cried out in protest, "Its only a dime, is it worth a \$50. Visit to the chiropractor?" Sighing, I straightened up and said to myself, "It's dirty and disease ridden and I would no doubt contract some exotic disease if I picked it up, and its only ten cents!"

Ah, I've come a long way! Bart



.....a Point of
View.....



from..... Small Cents II

Heading into the busy season in the coin business or at least one of the two busy seasons, and things are characteristically picking up around here so it hasn't been easy for me to find the time to write. I'm also training a new employee to take my son's place helping out in the store.

I hope everyone enjoyed the meeting and pizza party last month and hope I didn't traumatize anyone too greatly with the discussion of cleaning and dipping coins.

I'd like to take a little time to talk about the difference between "Strike" and "Wear". The most difficult aspect of grading for most individuals to master is determining the difference between loss of design detail on a coin to friction or wear versus loss of detail due to worn dies or strike weakness.

Some of you old timers are fond of quoting from the older Red Book grading standards when grading. For example the Red Book used to say Indian cents had to have full diamonds to grade Extra fine; Lincoln cents needed a sharp bow tie and ear; Buffalo nickels needed a full horn for VF or better, just for a few examples. In reality this is usually not the case due to weakness of strike.

Strike is defined as the boldness or amount of detail brought out from the dies as a coin is made. There are several factors which influence the strike quality of a coin. New, refurbished or lightly used dies will produce

better struck coins. As dies age they become worn and are frequently polished to prolong their useful lives. Obviously this weakens the depth of detail on the dies and correspondingly on the coins that are produced. Other influencing factors can be Die pressure, oil or grease in the dies, and also improperly aligned dies.

Weakness of strike can look a lot like wear to the novice or casual collector. The simplest way to differentiate is to remember uncirculated coins have surface luster. If a coin is flat on the high points but has full luster, it is strike not wear. On circulated coins, keep in mind that a coin practically always will wear evenly. If an Indian cent has full feather detail but does not have sharp diamonds, that is a result of strike not wear.

Since strike quality is not a constant it follows that sharp fully struck coins should be more desirable than weaker struck coins and therefor command a higher price. Hence, we have premiums for "full Diamonds", "Full Split Bands", "full Steps", "Full Bell Lines", and "Full Head" to name a few.

Strike quality can also vary from mint to mint. Generally, branch mint issues from Denver, New Orleans and San Francisco have often been found to be of lesser quality and weaker strike than Philadelphia made coins particularly from 1914 through 1955 on minor denominations and always from New Orleans on silver dollars.

Often weakly struck areas on a coin will have a rougher appearing texture due the metal not completely flowing into the recesses of the die in that area.

I hope this serves to help understand the comparison of strike versus wear.

Regards,

Gary

1999 OFFICERS

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VP1 - Gary Galbo
VP2 - Carl Greenbaum
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Director - Don Pickering
Librarian - Roger Levesque
Editor - Bob Fritsch

This Newsletter is published monthly by the Nashua (NH) Coin Club. Entire contents are copyright © 1999 by the Nashua Coin Club. Questions, comments, and articles may be sent to PO Box 3003; Nashua, NH 03061-3003 or to bobfritsch@earthlink.net on email. Deadline is the last Friday of the month.

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NEXT MEETING 8 NOVEMBER AT THE LIBRARY

HARPING ON IRISH COINAGE

By AP Horton

The Harp is central to the coinage of the Irish Republic. It plays on the cover of nearly every modern Irish coin. The reverse of coins predominate towards the Ark theme [Go Irish Rovers]. There you will find the pig, birds, wolfhound, hare, fish, horse, bull, elk [?], but sorry no unicorns which is a let down. A few have non-animal motif which interesting. Celebrating the Easter Uprising is cause for celebration [10 SHILLINGS] in 1966. And one must not fault the Dublin Millennium [50 PENCE] of 1988. I am waiting for Guinness to be put on national currency...it has become the national beverage. Until then let the music play.

SHOW CALENDAR

5-7 Nov - Bay State Boston
7 Nov - Portland, ME
12-14 Nov - Baltimore
14 Nov - Burlington, VT
**21 NOV - 3rd SUNDAY,
HOLIDAY INN**
28 Nov - Chelmsford
2-5 Dec - New York
International
12 Dec - Auburn
**19 DEC - 3rd SUNDAY,
HOLIDAY INN**

PREZ SEZ

As I write these words for our December newsletter on the eve of Thanksgiving, I would like to share a few personal thoughts. It has been a very enjoyable experience being the Nashua Coin Club president. Some of the highlights over the last few year's have been: working with the nice people at NENA for the show held in Merrimack in September 1998, visiting various restaurants in the area to make plans for our annual dinner, seeing many new members join the NCC, watching many veteran members mentoring newer members, and the beginning of *The Nashua Numismatist* to name a few.

I would like to thank ALL members for their support and encouragement, but I would like to specifically mention Gary Galbo, who always makes you feel welcome in his store no matter how busy he may be. In addition, many, many, many thanks to Bob Fritsch who amazes me with how much he accomplishes while belonging to numerous organizations. My work load has increased dramatically in the last 60 days, and I am involved in a 4.5 million dollar fundraising effort to build a new church in Nashua, so I feel now is definitely an excellent time to turn over the reins to someone else.

Will I continue to be an active full time member of the NCC? ABSOLUTELY! Would I be willing to serve as an officer in a non presidential capacity? Yes,

although I would really like to see other members step up to the challenge. I truly enjoy and look forward to our monthly meetings and seeing everyone. Where else can you go and learn, laugh, view excellent material, hear great stories, and have an auction all in 2 hours? It really is a gas. Finally, I hope you all get whatever numismatic treasures you have asked Santa Claus for this year. Enjoy the holiday season, and get ready for a great 2000. The world is not going to end...believe me!

Regards, Alan

NOVEMBER QUIZ

This month's quiz focuses on the little-loved Suzie-B Dollar:

1. The SBA was issued in 1999 after a hiatus of several years. Name at least two other US coins that also had a long period of no production.
2. Counting the 1999 issue, how many coins are in the SBA series?
3. What derogatory nickname, related to the President at the time of issue, was given the SBA?
4. Who are the major users of the SBA today?

OCTOBER ANSWERS

1. Gilroy Roberts and Frank Gasparro. 2. The 1970D, 1987P, and 1987D were issued in Mint Sets only. 3. 1965-70, and in 1976 for the special Bicentennial Silver Clad issue. 4. The stylized "GR" was thought to be the Soviet Hammer and Sickle.

COIN OF THE MONTH

Alan Brouillard said that he was 10 years old on 22 November 1963, the date of the Kennedy Assassination, and the considers Kennedy the only lifetime coin President for him. He still feels a tremendous sense of loss and loves the coin 36 years later. This kicked off the Coin of the Month, the Kennedy Half. The Quiz had several stumbers. Why does the coin not circulate? Vending Machines, the inability of the Federal Reserve to place them in circulation, and the lack of space in cash drawers are the main reasons. Why are they still made? Gambling was one guess. There are lots of error and die varieties. It's an interesting series that is fairly cheap to collect. Here is a tale by Alan Brouillard. In 1996 his company was celebrating its 15th anniversary and Alan got a great idea: give Proof Kennedy Halves for awards. He cornered the local market for these coins, and then got 188 of them from Great Lakes Coins. Unfortunately the year and the celebration ended and he had a few Proof 1981 Kennedy Halves left -- 122 to be exact, all Type I's. The difference in types is in the S mintmark. It was noted that this was a very popular coin overseas that is still in demand. Don Pickering won the raffle of 16 coins, including a 1981 Proof. Next month: **Susie B. Dollar**.

NOV HILITES

- 19 members and one guest present.
- Show reports: Bay State was not very good. Many new dealers were present and most regulars went to Denver. NENA was great on Friday and Saturday but was way down on Sunday. 22 YNs attended the Forum.
- The Newsletter needs an Assistant Editor.
- Nominations will open next month.
- \$100 was voted to the Santa Fund.
- There was no Fall show so how do we raise revenue to pay for the club's expenses? Can we get better returns on our CDs?
- Bob Fritsch told of his adventures in Curacao and San Diego.
- The passing of former member Joe Borges was noted.
- Tim Walant showed his coin book of all the coins in England.
- Dave Heimbach showed a Connecticut Quarter he got in change. The ensuing conversation held the opinion that the Mint was doing well with these issues.
- Jacinta Walant told about a Wheat Cent found by a cashier at the grocery store.
- Bart Bartanowicz got kudos for his article in the Newsletter.
- Christie Cable was welcomed as a new member.
- A discussion on weak strike vs wear was illustrated by three coins that were passed around.
- Tales of misspent youth started with the observation that 25 cents gets you one pinball game but a Susie B gets 5 games. Another tale was about using slot machine slugs at Canobie Lake Penny Arcade. The question of what to

do with cents ground down to dime size got lots of answers. Parking meters was a probable target. One tale was of a parking meter scam where an attendant set the counter to 11 dimes per dollar. He would take the overage for himself, until he was sick one day and the scam was discovered.

- Show and Tell included a 3-volume set of Atwood-Coffee Transportation Token Catalogs where the NH Highway token varieties were pointed out. What is the purpose of the "A" and "B" cutouts on some of these tokens? Nobody knew.

- A German book on air-related medals was shown.

- Australia recently voted to keep the British Queen as Monarch, but would the coins have changed if the vote went the other way? Yes, many countries have done so.

- Ken Cable told that before 1828, US coins were struck with an Open Collar, and a Closed Collar was used afterward. Actually, writings suggest that it was a "Close" collar. Does anybody have any references on this? It is a heated debate in the Early American Coppers club. Does "Close collar" refer to reeding?

- There was an auction of several books from Charlie Dube. Sales of \$28.25 were donated to the club. This is one good way to raise revenue -- bring your extra stuff and donate the proceeds to the club.

GOODY OF THE MONTH

... is another bookmark from the Mint, this time the Yellowstone National Park Commemorative Dollar. Sorry but due to limited quantities, some inactive members will not receive one.

NEW MONEY FOR NEXT YEAR

Here are the designs for the new \$10 and \$5 bills which will be released next year. They will bear the signatures of Treasurer Mary Ellen Withrow and Secretary of the Treasury Laurence Summers. The Series will be 1999 due to the new signature. As with the rest of the notes in this series, the security thread will be in a different position and glow a different color for each denomination.



ANCIENTS ON THE INTERNET

By Carl Greenbaum

During the last several weeks I have researched different Judaea Capta series Roman coins, found an excellent article on the coinage of the Herodian Period and purchased over a dozen ancient coins. All of the research and all but two purchases involved the Internet. In this article I'll summarize how I find information and how I buy coins on the internet.

Far and away the best ancient coin information resource on the net is Doug Smith's Ancient Greek & Roman Coins page at: <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/6193/index.html>. The site has dozens of articles about selecting and attributing coins, emperors, legends on coins ... a great resource.

The ANS has a searchable index of their entire collection at <http://www.hbrf.org/index.htm>. In my search for variants of the Roman Judaea Capta coins, I found 88 coins in their collection, several not reported by other sources. Full field and legend descriptions and mint information but sadly no pictures. Curiously, their collection of 88 Judaea Capta coins includes four fakes!

The site (<http://www.pomoerium.com/links/numism.htm>) has an extensive list of links to information and dealer sites on the internet.

Here are several ways I use the Internet to acquire coins:

When I get a catalog with coins of interest, I email the dealer to confirm availability before I send a check. I usually get an answer the same day which is usually faster than trying to call.

The most common current source is eBay on-line auctions- www.ebay.com. As I write this, there are 50,625 coins for auction on the eBay site including 2,070 ancients. Here's a typical ancient coin listing:

"Roman Empire. Tiberius and Drusus. A.D. 14-37. AR Drachm. Caesarea in Cappadocia. Obv. Laureate head of Tiberius r. Rv. Bare head of Drusus l. RIC 43. Fine.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: A PICTURE WOULD NORMALLY APPEAR HERE.]

Herakles Numismatics, Inc. accepts money orders, cashier checks, and personal checks for payment. Personal checks must clear prior to shipment. Buyer pays \$4 for insured postage within the continental U.S. \$8 elsewhere. North Carolina residents please add 6.5% sales tax. Herakles Numismatics guarantees the authenticity of all of its coins. Ten day return policy on all sales."

The current bid is \$10 and the auction closes in six days

Yahoo and Amazon.com also have coin auctions though with fewer items on auction at one time. There are 657 ancients on Yahoo today and 142 on Amazon. Registering and bidding is easy and if you are the high bidder, the seller sends an email with the address to send the money. I have not had any problems yet and eBay has some sort of guarantee plus there are escrow organizations available for very high value transactions. Numismatists On Line runs dozens of concurrent auctions with each dealers coins displayed separately. Gary Galbo has regular auctions on NOL but their ancient auctions are somewhat sparse.

Many dealers have their own web sites, many sell coins directly from the site but most are shifting their transactions to the big auction sites where they get more exposure. Some coins have reserves, many don't and buy/bid formats are common at least on Amazon where there is a stated buy price, which, if bid, closes the auction and the coin is yours (although usually the coins sells for less than the buy price). Here's a few of the sites I visit regularly:

<http://www.oldromancoins.com/>

<http://www.4cbiz.net/rudnik/>

<http://www.papyrusbooks.com/>

<http://artemis.austinc.edu/acad/cml/rcap/vcsrc/index.html>

<http://www.bitsofhistory.com/>

<http://ancient-art.com/index.html>

<http://members.aol.com/alexmalloy/agmalloy.htm>

If you'd like an electronic copy of this article so you don't have to retype the internet addresses, please email me at greenbaum1@earthlink.net. Happy surfing!

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NEXT MEETING 13 DECEMBER AT THE LIBRARY

SEC'S SCRIBBLINGS

I will not be at the next meeting due to travel. Will somebody please take the minutes and attendance? I am very concerned that my travel commitments are interfering with my club activities. Therefore, if somebody else would accept the nomination for Secretary-Treasurer, I will not run for office. Of course, if nobody else takes the nomination, I shall serve as best I can but will be heavily absent in the coming year. Happy Holidays to all. See you next year.
Bob

SHOW CALENDAR

2-5 Dec - New York
International
12 Dec - Auburn
**19 DEC - 3rd SUNDAY,
HOLIDAY INN**
6-9 Jan - FUN, Orlando, FL
**16 JAN - 3rd SUNDAY,
HOLIDAY INN**
23 Jan - Chelmsford



NASHUA NUMISMATIST

DECEMBER 1999
Volume 3 Number 12
Whole Number 35

PREZ SEZ

Happy New Year to all the NCC members. Assuming the Apocalypse has not occurred, and the Y2K glitches are minimal, I look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting on Monday, January 10, 2000 at the library. Important items on the agenda are the election of a NEW group of officers for the upcoming year. PLEASE give serious consideration to serving the club in whatever capacity you could be of assistance. Thanks to Jacinta Walant for taking the minutes at the December meeting, a job well done. Dues for the year 2000 can be paid at the January meeting by those who are not lifetime members of the NCC. And last, but not least, will anyone have any coin with a 2000 date on it by January 10th? We shall see.....
Regards, Alan

COIN OF THE MONTH

Gary asked if anyone had seen a new Susan B. Anthony dollar yet. Gary has them and the proofs which he said have quite a big markup from the mint. Bart thinks the new Sacagawea dollars will be pulled and collected rather than used in circulation. It is a coin that will primarily be used in vending machines. The December quiz was discussed, hopefully we had the correct answers.

DEC HILITES

-- Thanks to Jacinta Walant for taking the minutes.
-- 15 members present
-- Alan told the story he heard on ABC NEWS with Peter Jennings. 86% approval rating by the general public for the U.S. Mint. This placed the mint in 2nd place as another U.S. government agency had an 87% approval rating. The IRS had the lowest approval rating.
-- Gary offered his opinion that this year, many dealers are upset over the mechanism for distributing the 1999 sets. Many dealers have sets that are worth \$2 less than they paid for them. Another comment was made that the initial novelty for collecting the state coins had passed. There was not a consensus on this. Some said that more interest will be there when Massachusetts and New Hampshire coins are released.
-- Jacinta mentioned a 1999 proof coin set from the mint that had a spot on the coin. She was advised to contact the mint's customer service for a replacement.
-- Bart talked about an MS70 slabbed coin at Gary's auction. The coin was not getting any bids, as it had a spot on it. "But it was a perfect spot," according to Gary.
-- Show & Tell included the book Spink 2000 "Coins of England", an MS67 1935 Mercury dime, a Columbian Expo 1893, 2 Illinois Centennial commemoratives, one VF with white luster, the other MS65 with toning. The usual debate with regard to toning ensued.

-- Gary reported on his auction. It was the return to the night time auction. Attendance was doubled over the previous auction, and Morgan Dollars were the big hit of the night.
-- A brief auction was held of material submitted by Charlie Dube and Ken Young.
-- Alan closed the meeting by wishing everyone a "Merry Christmas"

DECEMBER QUIZ

Sorry about the lack of answers last month. They are at the bottom. Since we are in a new year, let's see what you know about the upcoming implementation of the EURO.

1. How many countries are participating in the initial EURO?
2. Each coin in the EURO system has a common obverse and a nationalistic reverse. How many coins per country are in the series?
3. The EURO banknotes will be common across all participating countries. How many banknotes are there in the series?
4. What is the date for release of the new EURO coins and banknotes?

NOVEMBER ANSWERS

1. Morgan Dollar (1904-1921) and Half Dimes (1805-1829) to name two. 2. 18. 3. "Carter Quarter". 4. Transportation Systems (e.g., Los Angeles) and the Post Office.

ATTRIBUTION 101: UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF AN ANCIENT COIN

By T. E. Bray



Introduction

I know it's happened to everyone; you get a coin that is so worn in spots that is impossible to attribute it. But is it really? I've often thought so, but once I've put my mind to it and put the time in the books, I've surprised myself. True, there are some coins that are so worn not even Caesar himself would recognize them. But most coins have at least some clues--like the one above. Where to begin?

Step I: Examine the Coin for Clues

Certainly the obvious first step, and the one that will send you down the right or wrong path, depending upon how well you interpret what the coin has to tell you. So take this coin in your hand; what do you notice? First of all, it is large, like a US silver dollar, and thick, and obviously not silver. It is an AE of some kind, and if you guess a sestertius it would be a good guess. Now look at the portrait; do you know your emperor's faces? After you see a lot of coins you will, but be warned, even experienced collectors can be fooled--in the early part of a reign the portraits can look like the previous emperor, probably because the Celators did not yet know what the new man looked like. Looking at this portrait, I am guessing Hadrian.

The next thing I do is look for legends under a glass. I use a 5x for this purpose; I just want a bit of magnification. The obverse legend is very worn, but I do come up with ..IANUS..VGCOS and then by tilting the coin so the light hits it just so--IIIPP. So, I probably have HADRIANVS AVG COS III PP. The bust is facing right, and he looks to be bare headed, without drapery. Now for the reverse.

This one is tougher. Clearly, I see S-C to either side of some goddess or personification. From the position of her right arm I guess at first glance that it might be Fortuna, holding her hand on a rudder (I will be proven wrong later); the left hand is worn away as is the legend. Time to reach for the books.

Step II: I Reach for The RIC

My next step is to reach for the appropriate volume of the Royal Imperial Coinage, which in this case is volume II, Vespasian to Hadrian.

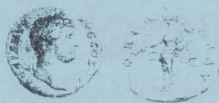
Looking up Hadrian, I go right to the tables to see if I can find my obverse legend; sure enough, from page 367 to 378 there are listings for HADRIANVS AVG COS II PP; confirmation-- at least-- that my coin is one of these types. But wait--these are listings for silver and gold--so I keep looking. Finally on page 435, under AES, I find the obverse legend. But which reverse is mine?

Well, I guessed the reverse might be Fortuna, so I look for any reverse type that might match; I find number 759 and 760, with the reverse legend FORTVNA AVG S-C. There, at least, is the S-C! But listing 760 has Fortuna holding a patera, and the arm position on my coin is definitely downwards, as if holding a rudder. (If it were only illustrated.) So, I guess that my coin is 759, Fortuna "standing l., holding rudder on globe and holding cornucopiae." To confirm, I check the description of the obverse. Uh-oh--the RIC says this type does not exist with a bare bust of Hadrian. Could the RIC be wrong? (They are sometimes.) What else could it be? Right above the listing is number 758, FIDES PVBLICA S-C; "Fides standing rt, holding cornucopiae and baskets of fruits." Hmm....I get my glass and look at the reverse; the worn head on the reverse might be facing right, not left. But are they corn ears, or a rudder?

Step III: Find an Illustration

I just have to find an illustration of these coins somewhere; the RIC says both types are common, and a picture is worth a thousand words; so I reach for my auction and dealer catalogues.

After looking for a while, I find an example of the coin with Fortuna on the reverse:



definitely NOT bare headed, so the RIC was right. My coin must be the one with FIDES on the reverse. So I hunt for that illustration, and after an hour, I give up; no Hadrian with Fides reverse, which makes me wonder, that for a common coin, I haven't seen one example in the several years of auction catalogues I've looked through. Then I notice a coin of Marcus, with--you guessed it--FIDES on the reverse:



The arm position matches the one on my coin. I'm sold; my coin must be RIC 758, Hadrian bare headed with Fides reverse. Now for the best part: what story does the coin tell me?

Step IV: Unlocking the Story

My first step is to get a good story about Fides, and I reach for John Melville Jones' A DICTIONARY OF ANCIENT ROMAN COINS. There, on page 115-116, he tells me that Fides means, "Good faith, loyalty, trustworthiness." But what about the grain ears? Reading further, I find, "...on the coins of Vespasian and on those of many later emperors ears of grain and a basket of fruit are more commonly found. This suggests that the idea behind the FIDES PVBLICA which such coins promise is the implied reliability of the imperial grain supply (cf. Annona)." Interesting! So a citizen reading this coin could feel good that their emperor promised that they'd get their corn. Proof that the way to a citizen's heart was through his stomach!

But what about an historical context? I go back to the RIC, and in the introduction to Hadrian I find the following entry: "The last issue of Hadrian, characterized by the obverse legend HADRIANVS AVG COS III PP, begins with his return to Rome in AD 134 and ends with his death in AD 138." Reading further, I read that my coin was most likely struck in 137, around the time of the adoption of Aelius. Could it be that Hadrian was calming the people, saying, "yes, I know, I won't always be here, someday I'll be dead, but don't worry--you'll always get your corn!"

So, by trial and error, hitting the books and a bit of guesswork, I've attributed my worn coin: HADRIAN: AE Sestertius; RIC 758; probably struck in Rome in 137; OBV: HADRIANVS AVG COS III PP; bare bust rt; RX: FIDES PVBLICA; Fides standing rt; holds grain ears and basket of fruit. FINE/ VG; a pleasing portrait and an interesting type

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A MEMBER WRITES:

I am really concerned about the future of the club as far as having active leadership. Our membership is increasing in the right direction. We have more than enough people to spread activities evenly and do a lot of things well but folks aren't stepping forward.

This is indeed a problem in every club I encounter. A club is only as good as the people who choose to lead it. For me, "paying back" the hobby and helping it grow is the best part of being in a club. I only wish more of my fellow members felt the same way. Ed.

GOODY OF THE MONTH

... is the ANA elongated coin from the Chicago Convention, and is the companion to September's TEC coin. Sorry but due to limited quantities, some inactive members will not receive one.

1999 OFFICERS

President - Alan Brouillard

VP1 - Gary Galbo

VP2 - Carl Greenbaum

Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Fritsch

Director - Don Pickering

Librarian - Roger Levesque

Editor - Bob Fritsch

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Phone queries may be made to 881-9211. The Club meets on the second Monday of every month in the Chandler Memorial Library, 257 Main Street, Nashua.

NEXT MEETING 10 JANUARY AT THE LIBRARY

"X-MAS GIFT"

by Andrew P. Horton

Wanting to get my 5 year old nephew on the road to coin collecting, I gathered duplicate foreign coins from my modest collection. Family and friends hearing of my project tossed coins my way. Soon the gift collection was more than modest.

For background, my nephew has traveled throughout the states. His whole extended family has traveled overseas. He was used to talk about foreign lands. Already he had some British coinage. Plus he has become a detail orientated Lego player. So small coins would pose no protestations.

To make this a keeper, I needed to add a resource guide. After many sad searches, I struck gold at Gibson's Books. This heavily illustrated, door stopping compendium of world coins 1900- was it.

Reel to Christmas. After my nephew had his Lego gift fix, he spilled coins over the floor. The cries of joy were gladdening. The coin guide remained wrapped. After some prompting [one does not want to tamper with success], he opened that. Soon he had his favorite coin, a 20 colon piece, from where else but Costa Rica. We looked it up in the book. Together we spent half an hour going over the collection. A happy camper.

He may not be hooked, but he had a great taste for sure. Will he ever show up at the Club? I hope so.